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THE GREEK BUCOLIC POETS



# THE GREEK BUCOLIC POETS

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY  
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## PREFACE

THE translator wishes to record his indebtedness to many predecessors, from the author of the *Six Idylls* to the late Andrew Lang. His thanks are also due, among other friends, to Mr. A. S. F. Gow for allowing him access to the unpublished results of his investigations into the "Bucolic Masquerade" and the Pattern-Poems

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Δύρα δὴ σοι καὶ κιθάρα λείπεται ὥς κατὰ πόλιν χρήσιμα·  
καὶ αὖ κατ' ἀγροὺς τοῖς νομεῦσι σῦριγξ ἂν τις εἴη.

PLATO, *Republic* 399 d

## INTRODUCTION

### I.—THE LIFE OF THEOCRITUS

THE external evidence for the life of Theocritus is scanty enough. Beyond a brief statement in Suidas, a casual phrase in Choeroboscus, the epigram "Ἄλλος ὁ Χῖος, and a comment upon a passage of Ovid, we have only a few short and not always consistent notes in the commentaries which are contained in the manuscripts. His poems tell us plainly that he was a native of Syracuse, and was familiar also with the districts of Croton and Thurii in Italy, with the island of Cos, with Miletus, and with Alexandria, and that he wrote certain of his works about the twelfth year of Ptolemy Philadelphus. The inscriptions he composed for the statues of Gods and poets connect him, or at least his fame, also with Teos, Paros, Ephesus, and Camirus. The rest—and that means much of the following account—is conjecture.

His parents were Praxagoras and Philinna, both possibly of Coan birth or extraction. His early manhood was spent in the Aegean. He seems to have studied medicine,<sup>1</sup> probably at Samos, under the

<sup>1</sup> In the Argument to XI read προσδιαλέγεται ὁ Θ. ἱατρῷ Νική Μιλησίῳ τὸ γένος, ᾧ (mss δs, ὁ) συμφοιτητῆς γέγονεν Ἐρασιστράτου ἱατρὸς ὦν καὶ αὐτὸς (mss ἱατροῦ ὄντος καὶ αὐτοῦ): otherwise both συν- and καὶ αὐτ. are unintelligible

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famous physician Erasistratus, along with the Milesian Nicias to whom he dedicates the *Cyclops* and the *Hylas*. Theocritus is also said to have been a pupil of the Samian poet Asclepiades, whose epigrams we know in the Anthology. He certainly spent some years at Cos, sitting at the feet of the great poet and critic Philotas, who numbered among his pupils Zenodotus the grammarian, Hermesianax the elegist, and the young man who was afterwards Ptolemy II. This happy period of our author's life is almost certainly recalled in a poem written at a later time, the *Harvest-home*. Philotas probably died about the year 283. Ten years later we find Theocritus at Syracuse, seeking the favour of the young officer who in 274 had been elected general-in-chief after the troubles of Pyrrhus' régime and was soon to be known as Hiero II. The poem we know as *Charites* or *The Graces* probably appeared as epistle-dedicatory to a collection of poems, *Charites* being really the title of the whole book.<sup>1</sup> Such fancy titles were the fashion of the day. Alexander of Aetolia, for instance, published a collection called *The Muses*; the "night-ingales" of Callimachus' famous little poem on Heraclitus are best explained as the name of his old friend's collected poems; and Aratus published a collection actually called by this name, for Helladius<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The scholion on ἡμετέρας χάριτας (l. 6) is τὰ οἰκεῖα ποιήματα. The phrase σποράδες ποικίλ in Artemidorus' introductory poem does not, of course, necessarily imply that hitherto each poem of the three authors had existed separately. There were no magazines. <sup>2</sup> ap Phot. Bibl. p. 531 b 14, cf. 532 a 36.

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writes "As Aratus says in the first of his *Charites*,"  
ἐν Χαρίτων πρώτῃ Whether Theocritus' little book contained any of the extant poems we cannot say. It very possibly contained the *Cyclops* and the *Beloved*, and from the title it may be judged to have comprised no more than three pieces. One biographical point should be noted here; Theocritus was newly come to Syracuse. We gather from the *Charites* that Hiero was by no means the first great man to whom Theocritus had gone for patronage, and it is to be remarked that the poet ascribes the indifference with which he had hitherto been received, not to the disturbed state of the country, but to the commercial spirit of the age. There were no doubt other possible patrons than Hiero in Sicily, but peace and tranquillity had not been known there for many years. The same argument may be used to show that his sojourn in Magna Graecia was not during the decade preceding the publication of the *Chartes*. The poem apparently failed like its predecessors; for Theocritus, like his own Aeschinas, was fain to go overseas and seek his fortune at Alexandria.<sup>1</sup>

The voyage to Egypt lay by way of the southern Aegean, and we are credibly informed that he now spent some time at Cos. He doubtless had many old friends to see. It was probably on this voyage that he wrote the *Distaff*, to accompany the gift he was taking from Syracuse to the wife of his old friend

<sup>1</sup> Beloch and others put the *Ptolemy* before the *Charites*, but when the latter was written Hiero cannot have been king. See the introduction to the poem.

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Nicias, who was now settled in practice at Miletus. The *Cyclops* is generally regarded as a consolation addressed to the lovesick Nicias. If this is true, it would follow on this placing of the *Distaff* that the *Cyclops* was written before the *Charites*; for it implies that Nicias, to whom it was doubtless sent as a letter, was then unmarried. The probable age of the two friends in 273 points, as we shall see, the same way. If on the other hand we may regard the *Cyclops* as an outpouring of soul on the part of the lovesick Theocritus, the author likening himself, and not Nicias, to Polyphemus, the two lines—all that has been preserved—of Nicias' reply<sup>1</sup> may be interpreted with more point. "Love has, it seems, made you a poet," a compliment upon the first serious piece of work of his friend's that he had seen. This interpretation puts the *Cyclops* long before the *Charites*, independently of the dating of the *Distaff*. In any case, the *Cyclops* is certainly an early poem. The same visit to Nicias may have been the occasion of the eighth epigram, an inscription for the base of the new statue of Asclepius with which the doctor had adorned his consulting-room. We may well imagine that Nicias employed his friend in order to put a little money in his pocket; for his own epigrams in the Anthology show clearly that he could have written an excellent inscription himself.

The *Love of Cynisca*, with its hint of autobiography

<sup>1</sup> ἦν ἄρ' ἀληθὲς τοῦτο, Θεόκριτε οἱ γὰρ Ἑρωτες | πολλοὺς ποιητὰς  
ἐδίδαξαν τοὺς πρὶν ἀμούσους.



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and its friendly flattery of Philadelphus, was in all probability written about this time. There is no doubt as to the approximate dates of the *Ptolemy* and the *Women at the Adonis Festival*. They must both have been written at Alexandria between the king's marriage with his sister Arsinoë—this took place sometime between 278 and 273—and her death in 270. The *Ptolemy* cannot be much later than 273; for it is clear that the Syrian war was in its early days, and this began in 274.

At this point it becomes necessary to discuss a question of great importance not only to the biographer of Theocritus but to the historian of the Pastoral. Does the *Harvest-home* deal with real persons? The scene of the poem is Cos. We have the characters Simichidas and Lycidas and the dumb characters Eucritus and Amyntas; the two songs mention in connexion with one or other of these persons Ageanax, Tityrus, Aratus, Aristis, Philinus, and two unnamed shepherds of Acharnae and Lycopè; in another part of the poem—though these are not necessarily to be reckoned as friends of the others—we have Philitas, and Sicelidas of Samos. Of these, Philitas certainly, and Aratus possibly, are the well-known poets; Philinus may or may not be the Coan Philinus who won at Olympia in 264 and 260 and who is probably the Philinus of the *Spell*; Aristis is a clp-form of some compound like Aristodamus, Amyntas is also called Amyntichus. The Tityrus, to whom, in the guise of a goatherd,

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Theocritus dedicates the *Serenade*, is almost certainly a real person, and as certainly, Tityrus was not his real name, Tityrus here may or may not be the same person. Sicelidas, on external grounds, is certainly to be identified with the poet Asclepiades; it is to be noted that he is called Sicelidas elsewhere than in Theocritus; but he and Philitas are in a sense outside this discussion. Lastly, Amyntas bears a royal name. We know Ptolemy Philadelphus to have been taught by Philitas; and though his father was reputed the son of Lagus, the Macedonians were proud to believe him to be actually the son of Philip of Macedon, whose father was Amyntas. It is generally thought that Philitas went to Philadelphus, but in view both of the climate of Egypt and of the great probability that from 301 Cos was a vassal either of Ptolemy I or of his son-in-law Lysimachus, it is at least as likely that Philadelphus went to Philitas. Cos, moreover, was Philadelphus' birth-place.<sup>1</sup>

If these were the only facts before us, sufficient evidence would be still to seek; for there is unfortunately some doubt as to the identity of Aratus. But there are other considerations which, taken with these, bring us near to certainty. If Lycidas is not a real person, why does the poet insist upon his characteristic laugh, and emphasise the

<sup>1</sup> It is worth noting here that Vergil in his *Bucolics* uses the royal Macedonian name Iollas. Did Theocritus in a lost poem use this for some great Macedonian of the family of Antipater?

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excellence of his pastoral get-up? If Anistis is not a real person, why is he so carefully described, and what business has he in the poem? It is Aratus' love, not Anistis' knowledge of it, that is important to the narrative. Lastly, there is the tradition of the scholia that the narrator is either Theocritus or one of his friends, of which alternatives the former is far the more probable. The conclusion we must come to is that we are dealing throughout with real persons, some of whom have their ordinary names and others not. This does not mean, of course, that the "other-names" were invented for the occasion by the poet. Rather should they be considered pet-names by which these persons were known to their friends. There can be no certain identification.

A further question arises. Whence did Theocritus derive the notion of staging himself and his friends as herdsmen? The answer is not far to seek. First, the Greek mind associated poetry directly with music; and secondly, Greek herdsmen were then, as they are still, players and singers. The poets of his day, some of whom dealt like him with country life, would naturally appear, to a country-loving poet like Theocritus, the literary counterparts, so to speak, of the herdsmen, and their poetry in some sense the art-form of the herdsman's folk-music. It is not perhaps without ulterior motive that Lycidas the poet-goatherd is made to claim fellowship with Comatas the goatherd-poet. The accident that combined this staging with the use of pet-names in

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this poem, is responsible, through Vergil's imitations, for the modern notion of the Pastoral. .

Let us now return to the life of Theocritus. If, as is generally believed, the *Harvest-home* is autobiographical, it was written after the author had won some measure of fame—he makes himself say that he is “no match *yet awhile* for the excellent Sicehidas”—, and the passage about the “strutting cocks of the Muses’ yard” is a reference to Apollonius of Rhodes and his famous controversy with Callimachus, Theocritus declaring his allegiance to the latter, who maintained that the long epic poem was out of date. This controversy in all probability began upon the publication of the first edition of Apollonius’ *Argonautica*. The date of this is unfortunately disputed, but it can hardly have been earlier than 260. A further shred of biography may perhaps be derived from a consideration of the story of Comatas in relation to the cruel death of Sotades<sup>1</sup>. This brave outspoken poet denounced Ptolemy’s incestuous marriage, and was thrown into prison. After languishing there for a long time he made good his escape, but falling eventually into the hands of an admiral of the Egyptian fleet, was shut up in a leaden vessel and drowned in the sea. This strange method of execution calls for some explanation. One is tempted to think that Sotades was a friend of Theocritus—he was a writer of love-poems of the type of XII, XXIX, and XXX—, and that after his friend

<sup>1</sup> Plut., *de Puer. Educ.* Athen 14. 621.

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had been some years in prison Theocritus wrote the *Harvest-home*, hinting that Sotades had suffered long enough, and sheltering himself under a reminder of his own early acquaintance with the king and a declaration of his allegiance to the great court-poet Callimachus. On the unfortunate man's escape, we may imagine, the story of the frustration of the mythical king's cruel purpose became directly applicable to the situation; the phrase *κακαῖσιν ἀπασθαλίσουσιν ἀνακτος* was now genuine censure and the particle *θῆν* real sarcasm; and when the admiral sent word of the recapture, Ptolemy with a grim irony ordered that the modern Comatas should be shut up in a modern chest and put beyond reach of the assistance of the bees. Here again we can arrive at no date. All we know is that Sotades' offence must have been committed about 275 and that he lay a long time in prison.

We do not know for certain where Theocritus spent the rest of his life. Perhaps after the protest of the *Harvest-home* and its tragic sequel he found it prudent to retire from Alexandria. But whether he now left Egypt or not, it is more than probable that he spent some time during his later years in Cos. There was close intercourse during this period between Cos and Alexandria, and if he did not make the island his home, he may well have paid long summer visits there. Besides the *Harvest-home*, there are two certainly Coan poems, the *Thyrsus* and the *Spell*, and these would seem to belong rather to this

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than to an earlier period. Apart altogether from the question of actual impersonation, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that when speaking of the Sicilian Thyrsis and the song he sang at Cos, Theocritus had himself at the back of his mind, and that when he wrote of Thyrsis' victory over the Libyan, he was thinking of some contest of his own—perhaps one of the Dionysiac contests mentioned in the *Ptolemy*—with Callimachus of Cyrenè. And it can hardly be a mere coincidence that in the *Spell* Theocritus makes the athlete boast of having "outrun the fair Philinus," and that a Coan named Philinus won at Olympia in 264 and 260; it is only reasonable to suppose that Theocritus wrote these words when Philinus' name was on every Coan lip.

Except that in XXX the poet speaks of the first appearance of grey hairs upon his head, and that in the *Beloved* the comparison of the maid to the thrice-wed wife, which could not fail to offend the thrice-wed Arsinoë, must have been written before the author's sojourn at Alexandria, there is nothing to indicate to what period of his life the remaining poems belong.

The list of Theocritus' works given by Suidas tells us that we possess by no means all of the works once ascribed to him. His *Bucolic Poems*, *ἔπη* or *δράματα βουκολικά* were in the time of Suidas, or rather of the writers upon whom he drew, his chief title to fame. Of the *Epigrams* or *Inscriptions* we have some, if not all, known as his in antiquity. The *Hymns* are now

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represented by the *Ptolemy*, the *Dioscuri*, the *Berenice* fragment, and perhaps the *Chartes*. The *Lyric Poems* must have included the *Disstaff* and XXIX and XXX, and perhaps also the *Beloved* and the *Epithalamy*. The books known as *Elegies*, *Iambics*, *Funeral Laments*, and *The Heroines*, and the single poem called *The Daughters of Proetus*—perhaps known to Vergil,—all these are lost without a trace. It is strange that Suidas' list apparently omits all mention of the non-pastoral mimes, the *Love of Cynusca*, the *Spell*, and the *Women at the Adonis Festival*, and of the little epics *Hylas* and *The Little Heracles*. The *Spell* may have been included among the *Lyric Poems*, its claim to be so classed lying in the peculiar way in which, though it is a personal narrative, the refrain is used throughout as if it were a song. We may perhaps guess that the four other poems belonged to the remaining book of Suidas' list, the *Hopes*,<sup>1</sup> and that this was a collection published by Theocritus soon after his arrival in Egypt, with the *Love of Cynusca* standing first as a sort of dedication to his friend Ptolemy and echoing the title's veiled request for his patronage.

The name εἰδύλλια, idyls, as applied to the poems of Theocritus, is certainly as old as the commentaries which accompany the text, and some of these probably go back to the first century before Christ. It was known to Pliny the Younger as a collective

<sup>1</sup> A book of the same title is ascribed by Suidas to Callimachus.

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title for a volume of short poems ; there is a collection bearing this name among the works of Ausonius. But it was apparently unknown as the title of Theocritus' poems to Suidas and his predecessors. The meaning of it is "little poems" We are told that Pindar's Epinician Odes were known as *εἶδη*, and Suidas uses the same word in describing the works of Sotades. There is no warrant for the interpretation "little pictures."

If we may accept the identification of the "pretty little Amyntas" with Philadelphus, we can get a very close approximation to the date of Theocritus' birth. Philadelphus was born in 309. At the time described in the *Harvest-home* he is obviously about fifteen. In the same poem Theocritus has already attained something of a reputation, but is still a young man. We shall not be far wrong if we put his age at twenty-two or three. He was born then about the year 316, and when he wrote the *Charites* he was about forty-three. This would suit admirably the autobiographical hint in the *Love of Cynisca* that the poet's hair at the time of writing was just beginning to go grey. If the Berenice of the fragment preserved by Athenaeus is the wife, not of Soter, but of Euergetes, it would follow that Theocritus was at the Alexandrian court in his seventieth year. It is at any rate certain that he did not die young ; for Statius calls him *Siculus senex* <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Silv.* 5 3. 151



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A scholiast on Ovid's *Ibis* l. 549

*Utve Syracosio praestricta fauce poetae,  
Sic animae laqueo sit via clausa tuae,*

tells us that this is "the Syracusan poet Theocritus, who was arrested by king Hiero for making an attack upon his son, the king's object being merely to make him think that he was going to be put to death. But when Hiero asked him if he would avoid abusing his son in future, he began to abuse him all the more, and not only the son but the father too. Whereat the king in indignation ordered him to be put to death in real earnest, and according to some authorities he was strangled and according to others beheaded." There is nothing improbable in this story. When Theocritus was sixty-five Hiero's son Gelo would be nineteen; we know of no other Syracusan poet who met such a fate; and Antigonus' treatment of Theocritus of Chios and Ptolemy's of Sotades show how the most enlightened rulers of the day could deal with adverse criticism. But whether we believe it or no, the story is evidence for a tradition that Theocritus' last days were spent in Sicily, and we may well imagine that he died at Syracuse, that birthplace, as he calls it, of good men and true, where his fellow-citizens long afterwards pointed out to the collector of inscriptions the statue of his great forerunner Epicharmus, and the words which he once wrote for its base, little thinking perhaps that the time would

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come when his eulogy would apply as truly to himself: "They that have their habitation in the most mighty city of Syracuse have set him up here, as became fellow-townsmen, in bronze in the stead of the flesh, and thus have remembered to pay him his wages for the great heap of words he hath builded; for many are the things he hath told their children profitable unto life. He hath their hearty thanks."

### II.—THE LIFE OF MOSCHUS

The evidence for the life of Moschus is contained in a notice in Suidas and a note appended to the *Runaway Love* in the Anthology. These tell us that he was of Syracuse, a grammarian and a pupil of Aristarchus, and that he was accounted the second Bucolic poet after Theocritus. Aristarchus taught at Alexandria from 180 to about 144. The year 150 will then be about the middle of Moschus' life. He is almost certainly to be identified with the Moschus who is mentioned by Athenaeus as the author of a work on the Rhodian dialect, in which he explained that *λεπαστή* was an earthenware vessel like those called *πτωματίδες* but wider in the mouth. None of Moschus' extant works are really Bucolic; for the *Lament for Bion* is certainly by another hand.

### III —THE LIFE OF BION

All we know of Bion is gathered from references in Suidas and Diogenes Laertius, from the above-mentioned note in the Anthology, and from the poem

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upon his death written by a pupil who was a native of Magna Græcia. The third of the Bucolic poets, as he was apparently reckoned in antiquity, was born at a little place called Phlossa near Smyrna. His pupil calls his poetry Dorian and connects him with Syracuse and the Muses of Sicily. But this may be no more biographical than his phrase "Bion the neatherd." According to his pupil he was the leading Bucolic poet of his day, and it is unfortunate that most of the poems that have come down to us under his name,<sup>1</sup> though all quoted as extracts from his *Bucolica*, are really not pastorals at all. It is noteworthy that Diogenes calls him μελικὸς ποιητής, a lyric poet. The description lyric poems would apply—in Alexandrian times—to the *Adonis* and perhaps to some of the smaller poems too. Either Diogenes knew the collection by the title of μέλη βουκολικά, or there were two collections of which he knew only one.

If we may take his pupil literally, Bion was murdered by means of poison. There is really nothing to settle his date. Suidas' order, Theocritus, Moschus, Bion, is probably to be regarded as chronological, and a comparison of the styles of the two last poets points to Bion having been the later. In the present state of our knowledge it would be unwise to draw a contrary conclusion from the omission of Moschus' name from the autobiographical passage of the *Lament*.

<sup>1</sup> The *Adonis* has been ascribed to him on the authority of the *Lament for Bion*.

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### IV.—THE TEXT

The text of this edition is based upon Ahrens and Ziegler. It owes much also to von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff. To the last scholar's excellent edition, as also to his various books and articles, particularly the brilliant *Textgeschichte der griechischen Bukoliker*, I am deeply indebted throughout the volume. In many passages, as is well known, the text of the Bucolic poets is by no means settled. In most of these I have adopted the emendations of other scholars, giving my acknowledgments, where the change is important, at the foot of the page. In some cases—those marked E in the notes—I have preferred my own. Most editors of the classics will be human enough, I hope, to sympathise with my lack of modesty in this respect. There has not always been room for more than the merest indication of my reasons. These will shortly be given, by the kindness of the editors, in the *Classical Review*. There is much to be said for Professor von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff's re-arrangement of the order of the poems. The usual position of the *Spell* is particularly unfortunate; for it leads the student to reckon it as a pastoral, which it is not. But the post-Renaissance order has been too long established, I think, to be upset now without great inconvenience; and so I have ventured to retain it.

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### V — THE TRANSLATION

In translating the Bucolic Poets my aim has been briefly this · to translate not so much the words as their meaning, to observe not merely the obvious English idioms of syntax but the more evasive but equally important ones of stress, word-order, and balance, and to create an atmosphere of association in some sense akin to the atmosphere of the original. The present fashion, set by Mr Myers in his Pindar, of translating classical verse into archaic prose, has much in its favour, and in rendering the songs of Theocritus' shepherds into verse I have not discarded it without due consideration. In Theocritus' day there was a convention which made it possible for him, without violating literary propriety, to represent the folk-song of a shepherd in the metre of the Epic. Some generations before, this would have been out of the question. A song in hexameters would have been a contradiction in terms. A somewhat similar convention nowadays makes prose the suitable literary vehicle of dialogue or narrative, but there is no firmly-established convention of using prose to represent song. A literary folk-song, if one may use the term, would be impossible in blank verse, let alone prose.

So I have chosen to render the songs of Theocritus' shepherds in rhyme, and used with only two exceptions the common ballad-metre written long, with seven, or where there is a medial pause, six, stresses

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to the line, employing occasional archaisms of word or rhythm not alien, I hope, to a metre which has for us associations of simple living and unsophisticated modes of thought

In the prose parts of my translation of the pastorals I have adopted an archaic style partly because the shepherd in modern literature does not talk the only modern dialect I know, that of the upper middle-class, and partly in an endeavour to create in them an atmosphere similar to that of the songs. I have extended archaism to two of the three non-pastoral mimes for kindred reasons, to the Love-Poems because they are so Elizabethan in spirit, to the Epic poems because the Epic is necessarily, under modern conditions, archaic, and to the rest because it is the fashion of the day.<sup>1</sup> The *Women at the Adonis Festival* is on a separate footing. It is so entirely modern in spirit, and the chief characters so closely resemble the average educated Englishwoman, that the only thing to do is to disregard the few anachronisms of name and custom and render it into Colloquial Suburban

<sup>1</sup> Verse-translations of the *Distaff* will be found in the *Cambridge Review* for Dec 8, 1910, and of XXIX and XXX in the *Classical Review* for March and May, 1911

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### *Editiones Principes* —

Theocritus was first printed with the *Works and Days* of Hesiod at Milan about the year 1480, but the edition contains only I—XVIII. The Aldine edition of 1495 contains Theocritus I—XXVIII and lines 1-24 of XXIX, Bion I, Moschus I—III, *Megara*, *The Dead Adonis*, and the *Pipe*. The Juntine edition of 1555 added the *Inscriptions*, and the *Wings* and *Axe* of Simias. The *Altar* of Dosiadas first appeared in the edition of Calliergus in 1516. The rest of Bion and Moschus as well as the *Egg* of Simias were added in the editions of Mekerchus (1565), Stephanus (1566), or Ursinus (1568); but the poems and fragments of Bion and Moschus quoted by Stobaeus in his *Florilegium* had already been printed in the early editions of that work, the first of which was published by Victor Trincavellus in 1536. The latter half of Theocritus XXIX was first edited by Casaubon on page 75 of his Commentary to Diogenes Laertius published at Morges in 1583. The *Second Altar* was first commented on by Scaliger in his *Letters* (*Opera Posthuma*, Paris, 1610, p. 469), and first edited by Salmasius in his *Inscriptionum Herodis Attici Explicatio* (Paris, 1619). Theocritus XXX, which occurs only in the Ambrosian MS known as B 75, was long overlooked, but was discovered by Ziegler in 1864, and first published by Bergk in 1865.

*The Latest Critical Text* of the Bucolic Poets is that of von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff (Oxford, 1905, 1906).

*The Best English Commentary*, which, however, contains

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only Theocritus and the *Megara*, is that of Cholmeley (London, 1900, etc)

Among Other Books Helpful to the Student may be mentioned—

- Ahrens *Bucolicorum Reliquiae* (Leipzig, 1855), an edition with Latin critical notes and copious introduction dealing with the MSS, early printed editions and versions, etc
- Fritzsche *Theocriti Idyllia* (Leipzig, 1870), an edition with Latin notes critical and exegetical.
- Ziegler *Theocriti Carmina* (Tubingen, 1879) and *Bionis et Moschi Carmina* (Tubingen, 1868), texts with Latin critical notes
- von Wilamowitz-Moellendorf: *Textgeschichte der griechischen Bukoliker* (Berlin, 1906), a history of the text, accompanied by a series of articles dealing with certain poems and passages and discussing various questions, such as the proper names used by Theocritus and the dates of the composition of his various works; and *Bion von Smyrna* (Berlin, 1900), an edition of the *Lament for Adonis* with notes, introductory, critical and exegetical, accompanied by a verse translation in German
- Legrand *Étude sur Théocrite* (Paris, 1898), a series of essays upon such questions as the authenticity of the various poems, the life of Theocritus, and his style and vocabulary
- Lang *Theocritus, Bion, and Moschus* (London, 1880, etc), an English prose translation with an introduction on *Theocritus and his Age*.
- Kerlin *Theocritus in English Literature* (Lynchburg, Virginia, 1910), an exhaustive account of the English translations of Theocritus and the imitations of him and references to him in English literature
- Haeberlin *Carmina Figurata Graeca* (Hanover, 1887), a text of the Pattern-Poems with Latin notes, introductory, critical and exegetical



# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## ΒΟΥΚΟΛΙΚΑ

Βουκολικαὶ Μοῖσαι σποράδες ποκά, νῦν δ' ἅμα  
    πᾶσαι  
ἐντὶ μιᾷς μάνδρας, ἐντὶ μιᾷς ἀγέλας.

"Ἄλλος ὁ Χίος· ἐγὼ δὲ Θεόκριτος, ὃς τάδ' ἔγραψα  
    εἰς ἀπὸ τῶν πολλῶν εἰμὶ Συρακοσίων,  
νιδὸς Πραξαγόραο περικλειτῆς τε Φιλίνης·  
Μοῦσαν δ' ὀθνεῖην οὔτιν' ἐφελκυσάμην.

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## INTRODUCTORY POEMS

THE Muses of the country, scattered abroad ere this, are now of one fold and of one flock.

THE Chian is another man, the Theocritus who wrote this book is one of the many that are of Syracuse, the son of Praxagoras and the famed Philina, and his Muse is the Muse of his native land.

The first of the above poems would appear to have been written for the title-page of the first collected edition of the Bucolic poets, published by the grammarian Artemidorus early in the first century before Christ, the second is thought to have stood upon the title-page of a separate edition of Theocritus, published by Artemidorus' son Theon. "The Chian" is believed by some to be Homer, but is more probably the orator and epigrammatist Theocritus of Chios.



I

# THE POEMS OF THEOCRITUS

## I.—THYRSIS

A SHEPHERD and a goatherd meet in the pastures one noontide, and compliment each other upon their piping. The shepherd, *Thyrsis* by name, is persuaded by the other—for a cup which he describes but does not at first show—to sing him *The Affliction of Daphnis*, a ballad which tells how the ideal shepherd, friend not only of Nymph and Muse, but of all the wild creatures, having vowed to his first love that she should be his last, pined and died for the love of another. The ballad is divided into three parts marked by changes in the refrain. The first part, after a complaint to the Nymphs of their neglect, tells how the herds and the herdsmen gathered about the dying man, and *Hermes* his father, and *Priapus* the country-god of fertility whom he had flouted, came and spoke and got no answer. In the second part, the slighted Love-Goddess comes, and gently upbraids him, whereat he breaks silence with a threat of vengeance after death. The lines of his speech which follow tell in veiled wonic terms what the vengeance of this friend of wild things will be, for *Achises* was

## THEOCRITUS I

*afterwards blinded by bees, Adonis slain by a boar, and Cypris herself wounded by Diomed The speech is continued with a farewell to the wild creatures, and to the wells and rivers of Syracuse In the third part he bequeaths his pipe to Pan, ends his dying speech with an address to all Nature, and is overwhelmed at last in the river of Death. The scene of the mime is Cos, but Thyrsis comes from Sicily, and Sicily is the scene of his song.*

## ΘΕΟΚΡΙΤΟΥ

### Ι.—ΘΥΡΣΙΣ

#### ΘΥΡΣΙΣ

Ἄδύ τι τὸ ψιθύρισμα καὶ ἅ πίτυς αἰπόλε τήνα  
ἅ ποτὶ ταῖς παγαῖσι μελίσσεται, ἄδὺ δὲ καὶ τύ  
συρίσδες· μετὰ Πᾶνα τὸ δεύτερον ἄθλον ἀποισῇ.  
αἶκα τήνος ἔλη κεραὸν τράγον, αἶγα τὺ λαψῇ·  
αἶκα δ' αἶγα λάβῃ τήνος γέρας, ἐς τὲ καταρρεῖ  
ἅ χίμαρος· χιμάρῳ δὲ καλὸν κρέας, ἔστε κ'  
ἀμέλξης.

#### ΑἰΠΟΛΟΣ

ἄδιον ὦ ποιμὴν τὸ τεὸν μέλος ἢ τὸ καταχὲς  
τῇν' ἀπὸ τᾶς πέτρας καταλείβεται ὑψόθεν ὕδωρ.  
αἶκα ταὶ Μοῖσαι τὰν οἶδα δῶρον ἄγωνται,  
ἄρνα τὺ σακίταν λαψῇ γέρας· αἶ δέ κ' ἀρέσκη  
τήνας ἄρνα λαβεῖν, τὺ δὲ τὰν ὄιν ὕστερον ἀξῇ.

#### ΘΥΡΣΙΣ

λῆς ποτὶ τὰν Νυμφᾶν, λῆς αἰπόλε τεῖδε καθίζας,  
ὥς τὸ κάταντες τοῦτο γεώλοφον αἶ τε μυρῖκαι,  
συρίσδεν; τὰς δ' αἶγας ἐγὼν ἐν τῷδε νομευσῶ.



# THE POEMS OF THEOCRITUS

## I.—THYRSIS

### THYRSIS

SOMETHING sweet is the whisper of the pine that makes her music by yonder springs, and sweet no less, master Goatherd, the melody of your pipe. Pan only shall take place and prize afore you; and if they give him a horny he-goat, then a she shall be yours, and if a she be for him, why, you shall have her kid, and kid's meat's good eating till your kids be milch-goats.

### GOATHERD

As sweetly, good Shepherd, falls your music as the resounding water that gushes down from the top o' yonder rock. If the Muses get the ewe-lamb to then meed, you shall carry off the cosset; and if so be they choose the cosset, the ewe-lamb shall come to you.

### THYRSIS

'Fore the Nymphs I pray you, master Goatherd, come now and sit ye down here by this shelving bank and these brush tamarisks and play me a tune. I'll keep your goats the while.

"cosset" = a pet lamb.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΑΙΠΟΛΟΣ

οὐ θέμις ὦ ποιμῆν τὸ μεσαμβρινὸν οὐ θέμις  
ἄμμιν

συρίσδεν. τὸν Πᾶνα δεδοίκαμες· ἥ γὰρ ἀπ' ἄγρας  
τανίκα κεκμακῶς ἀμπαύεται· ἔστι δὲ πικρός,  
καὶ οἱ αἰὲ δριμεῖα χολὰ ποτὶ ῥίνα κάθηται.  
ἀλλὰ τὺ γὰρ δὴ Θύρσι τὰ Δάφνιδος ἄλγε' αἰίδες  
καὶ τᾶς βουκολικᾶς ἐπὶ τὸ πλεόν ἵκεο Μοίσας, 20  
δεῦρ' ὑπὸ τὰν πτελέαν ἐσδώμεθα τῷ τε Πιρήπῳ  
καὶ τὰν κραναιᾶν κατεναντίον, ἅπερ ὁ θῶκος  
τῆνος ὁ ποιμενικὸς καὶ ταὶ δρύες. αἱ δὲ κ' αἰείσῃς,  
ὥς ὅκα τὸν Λιβύαθε ποτὶ Χρόμιν ἄσας ἐρίσδων,  
αἰγὰ τέ τοι δωσῶ διδυματόκον ἐς τρὶς ἀμέλξαι,  
ἃ δὺ' ἔχουσ' ἐρίφως ποταμέλγεται ἐς δύο πέλλας,  
καὶ βαθὺ κισσύβιον κεκλυσμένον ἀδεί κηρῷ,  
ἀμφῶες, νεοτευχές, ἔτι γλυφάνοιο ποτόσδον.

τῷ περὶ<sup>1</sup> μὲν χεῖλη μαρύεται ὑψόθι κισσός,  
κισσὸς ἐλιχρύσῳ κεκονιμένος· ἃ δὲ κατ' αὐτόν 30  
καρπῷ ἔλιξ εἰλεῖται ἀγαλλομένα κροκόεντι.<sup>2</sup>  
ἔντοσθεν δὲ γυνά τι θεῶν δαίδαλμα τέτυκται,  
ἀσκητὰ πέπλῳ τε καὶ ἄμπυκι. πᾶρ δέ οἱ ἄνδρες  
καλὸν ἐθειράζοντες ἀμοιβαδὶς ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος  
νεικεῖουσ' ἐπέεσσι. τὰ δ' οὐ φρενὸς ἅπτεται αὐτᾶς·  
ἀλλ' ὅκα μὲν τῆνον ποτιδέρκεται ἄνδρα γελαῖσα,  
ἄλλοκα δ' αὖ ποτὶ τὸν ῥίπτει νόον. οἷ δ' ὑπ'  
ἔρωτος

διθὰ κυλοιδιόνωντες ἐτώσια μοχθίζοντι.

<sup>1</sup> mss also τῷ ποτὶ      <sup>2</sup> ἃ δὲ is ἐλίχρυσος and ἔλιξ an adjective E others ἃ δὲ ἔλιξ "the ivy-tendril"

## THEOCRITUS I, 15-38

### GOATHERD

No, no, man; there's no piping for me at high noon I go in too great dread of Pan for that. I wot high noon's his time for taking rest after the swink o' the chase; and he's one o' the tetchy sort; his nostril's ever sour wrath's abiding-place. But for singing, you, Thyrsis, used to sing *The Affliction of Daphnis* as well as any man, you are no 'prentice in the art of country-music. So let's come and sit yonder beneath the elm, this way, over against Priapus and the fountain-goddesses, where that shepherd's seat is and those oak-trees. And if you but sing as you sang that day in the match with Chromis of Libya, I'll not only grant you three milkings of a twinner goat that for all her two young yields two pailfuls, but I'll give you a fine great mazer to boot, well scoured with sweet beeswax, and of two lugs, bran-span-new and the smack of the graver upon it yet

The lip of it is hanged about with curling ivy, ivy freaked with a cassidony which goes twisting and twining among the leaves in the pride of her saffron fruitage And within this bordure there's a woman, fashioned as a God might fashion her, lapped in a robe and a snood about her head. And either side the woman a swan with fair and flowing locks, and they bandy words the one with the other Yet her heart is not touched by aught they say; for now 'tis a laughing glance to this, and anon a handful of regard to that, and for all their eyes have been so long hollow for love of

"Priapus and the fountain-goddesses" effigies "Mazer". a carved wooden cup. "Cassidony" the Everlasting or Golden-Tufts

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τοῖς δὲ μετὰ γριπεύς τε γέρων πέτρα τε τέτυκται  
λεπράς, ἐφ' ᾗ σπεύδων μέγα δίκτυον ἐς βόλουν  
ἔλκει

ὁ πρέσβυς κάμνουντι τὸ καρτερόν ἀνδρὶ ἐοικώς.  
φαίης κα γυίων νιν ὅσον σθένος ἔλλοπιεύειν·  
ὥδ' οἱ ᾠδῆκαντι κατ' αὐχένα πάντοθεν ἴνες  
καὶ πολὺ περ ἔόντι, τὸ δὲ σθένος ἄξιον ἄβας.

τυτθὸν δ' ὅσσον ἄπωθεν ἀλιτρυτοιο γέροντος  
πυρναίαις σταφυλαῖσι καλὸν βέβριθεν ἀλώα,  
τὰν ὀλίγος τις κῶρος ἐφ' αἵμασιαῖσι φυλάσσει  
ἤμενος· ἀμφὶ δέ νιν δὺ' ἀλώπεκες, ἃ μὲν ἀν' ὄρχως  
φοιτῇ σινομένα τὰν τρῶξιμον, ἃ δ' ἐπὶ πῆρα  
πάντα δόλον τεύχοισα τὸ παιδίον οὐ πρὶν ἀνησεῖν 50  
φατὶ πρὶν ἢ 'κρατίσδον<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ ξηροῖσι καθίξῃ.  
αὐτὰρ ὅγ' ἀνθερίκοισι καλὰν πλέκει ἀκριδοθήραν  
σχοίνῳ ἐφαρμόσδων· μέλεται δέ οἱ οὔτε τι  
πῆρας

οὔτε φυτῶν τοσσῆνον, ὅσον περὶ πλέγματι γαθῆ.  
παντᾷ δ' ἀμφὶ δέπας περιπέπταται ὑγρὸς ἄκανθος,  
αἰολίχον θάημα<sup>2</sup>· τέρας κέ τ' ἐν θυμὸν ἀτύξαι.

τῷ μὲν ἐγὼ πορθμῇ Καλυδνίῳ<sup>3</sup> αἰγά τ' ἔδωκα  
ᾧον καὶ τυρόεντα μέγαν λευκοῖο γάλακτος·

<sup>1</sup> ἢ (ἀ)κρατίσδον E, cf. Suidas ἀκρατίζω mss ἀκράτιστον (scholia also ἀκρατισμόν), which some editors explain "till he have wiecked (or safely docked) the breakfast"

<sup>2</sup> αἰολίχον schol, cf. αἰόλος, πυρρός, πυρρίχος (4 20) schol also with Hesychius αἰολικόν mss αἰπολικόν θάημα Wilamowitz-Moellendorf, cf. *Anth. P.* 9 101, Auson *Epist.* 14. 33, Hesych mss τι θάημα <sup>3</sup> πορθμῇ Καλυδνίῳ schol. · schol also with mss πορθμεί Καλυδωνίῳ

## THEOCRITUS I, 39-58

her, they spend their labour in vain. Besides these there's an old fisher wrought on't and a rugged rock, and there stands gaffer gathering up his great net for a cast with a right good will like one that toils might and main. You would say that man went about his fishing with all the strength o's limbs, so stands every sinew in his neck, for all his grey hairs, puffed and swollen; for his strength is the strength of youth.

And but a little removed from master Weather-beat there's a vineyard well laden with clusters red to the ripening, and a little lad seated watching upon the hedge. And on either side of him two foxes; this ranges to and fro along the rows and pilfers all such grapes as be ready for eating, while that setteth all his cunning at the lad's wallet, and vows he will not let him be till he have set him breaking his fast with but poor victuals to his drink. And all the time the urchin's got star-flower-stalks a-platting to a reed for to make him a pretty gin for locusts, and cares never so much, not he, for his wallet or his vines as he takes pleasure in his platting. And for an end, mark you, spread all about the cup goes the lissom bear's-foot, a sight worth the seeing with its writhen leaves; 'tis a marvellous work, 'twill amaze your heart.

Now for that cup a ferryman of Calymnus had a goat and a gallant great cheese-loaf of me, and never

"Breaking his fast" the chief feature of a Greek breakfast, as the word ἀκραιΐω shows, was unmixed wine; this, being in a bottle, the fox, even if he wished it, could not expect to get at. Calymnus is an island near Cos.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὐδέ τί πω ποτὶ χεῖλος ἐμὸν θίγεν, ἀλλ' ἔτι κεῖται  
 ἄχραντον. τῷ κά τυ μάλα πρόφρων ἀρεῖαίμαν, 60  
 αἶκα μοι τὸ φίλος τὸν ἐφίμερον ὕμνον ἀείσης.  
 κοῦ τί τυ κερτομέω. πόταγ' ὠγαθέ· τὰν γὰρ ἰοιδὰν  
 οὐ τί πα εἰς Ἀίδαν γε τὸν ἐκλελάθοντα φυλαξεῖς;

### ΘΥΡΣΙΣ

Ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ' ἰοιδᾶς.  
 Θύρσις ὃδ' ὥξ Αἴτνας, καὶ Θύρσιδος ἀδέα φωνά.  
 πᾶ ποκ' ἄρ' ἦσθ', ὅκα Δάφνις ἐτάκετο, πᾶ ποκα  
 Νύμφαι;

ἡ κατὰ Πηνειῷ καλὰ τέμπεα, ἡ κατὰ Πίνδω;  
 οὐ γὰρ δὴ ποταμοῖο μέγαν ῥόον εἶχετ' Ἀνάπω,  
 οὐδ' Αἴτνας σκοπιάν, οὐδ' Ἀκιδος ἱερὸν ὕδωρ.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ' ἰοιδᾶς. 70  
 τήνον μὰν θῶες, τήνον λύκοι ὠρύσαντο,  
 τήνον χῶκ δρυμοῖο λέων ἔκλαυσε θανόντα.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ' ἰοιδᾶς.  
 πολλαί οἱ πὰρ ποσσὶ βόες, πολλοὶ δέ τε ταῦροι,  
 πολλὰ δὲ δαμάλαι καὶ πόρτιες ὠδύραντο

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ' ἰοιδᾶς  
 ἦνθ' Ἑρμᾶς πράτιστος ἀπ' ὄρεος, εἶπε δέ· Δάφνι,  
 τίς τυ κατατρύχει; τίνος ὠγαθέ τόσσον ἔρασαι;'

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ' ἰοιδᾶς.

THEOCRITUS I, 59-79

yet hath it touched my lip ; it still lies unhandselled  
by Yet right welcome to it art thou, if like a good  
fellow thou'lt sing me that pleasing and delightful  
song Nay, not so ; I am in right earnest To't,  
good friend , sure thou wilt not be hoarding that  
song against thou be'st come where all's forgot ?

THYRSIS (sings)

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses.*

'Tis Thyrsis sings, of Etna, and a rare sweet voice  
hath he

Where were ye, Nymphs, when Daphnis pined ? ye  
Nymphs, O where were ye ?

Was it Peneus' pretty vale, or Pindus' glens ? 'twas  
never

Anápus' flood nor Etna's pike nor Acis' holy river.

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses.*

When Daphnis died the foxes wailed and the  
wolves they wailed full sore,

The lion from the greenwood wept when Daphnis  
was no more.

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses.*

O many the lusty steers at his feet, and many the  
heifers slim,

Many the calves and many the kine that made their  
moan for him

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses*

Came Hermes first, from the hills away, and said "O  
Daphnis, tell,

" Who is't that fretteth thee, my son ? whom lov'  
thou so well ? "

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses,*

' Peneus, Pindus " a river and a mountain in Thessaly  
" Anápus, Acis " rivers of Sicily

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἦνθον τοὶ βούται, τοὶ ποιμένες, ῥ'πόλοι ἦνθον·  
πάντες ἀνηρώτευν, τί πάθοι κακόν. ἦνθ' ὁ Πρίηπος  
κῆφα· ' Δάφνι τάλαν, τί νυ τάκεαι; ἅ δὲ τὶ  
κώρα <sup>1</sup>

πάσας ἀνὰ κρίνας, πάντ' ἄλσεα ποσσὶ φορεῖται—  
ἄρχετε βουκολικῆς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ'  
ᾠοιδᾶς—

ζάτεισ'· ἃ δύσερός τις ἄγαν καὶ ἀμήχανος ἐσσί.  
βούτας μὲν ἐλέγευ, νῦν δ' αἰπόλῳ ἀνδρὶ εἰόικας·  
ῥ'πόλος ὅκκ' ἐσορῇ τὰς μηκάδας οἶα βατεῦνται,  
τάκεται ὀφθαλμῶς, ὅτι οὐ τράγος αὐτὸς ἔγεντο,—  
ἄρχετε βουκολικῆς Μοῖσαι φίλαι ἄρχετ'  
ᾠοιδᾶς—

καὶ τὸ δ' ἐπεὶ κ' ἐσορῆς τὰς παρθένους οἶα γελᾶντι,  
τάκεαι ὀφθαλμῶς, ὅτι οὐ μετὰ ταῖσι χορεύεις.  
τὼς δ' οὐδὲν ποτελέξαθ' ὁ βουκόλος, ἀλλὰ τὸν  
αὐτῷ

ἄννε πικρὸν ἔρωτα, καὶ ἐς τέλος ἄννε Μοίρας.

ἄρχετε βουκολικῆς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' ᾠοιδᾶς.  
ἦνθέ γε μὰν ἀδεία καὶ ἡ Κύπρις γελάοισα,  
λάβρη μὲν γελάοισα, βαρὺν δ' ἀνὰ θυμὸν ἔχαισα,  
κεῖπε· ' τύ θην τὸν Ἑρωτα κατεύχεο Δάφνι  
λυγισεῖν·

<sup>1</sup> τὲ Wil from Laur 32 16 and Paris 2832. other mss  
γε, τοι, τι



THEOCRITUS I, 80-97

The neatherds came, the shepherds came, and the  
goatherds him beside,  
All fain to hear what ail'd him, Priápus came and  
cried

“ Why peak and pine, unhappy wight, when thou  
mightest bed a bride ?

“ For there's nor wood nor water but hath seen her  
footsteps flee—

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses—*

“ In search o' thee. O a fool-in-love and a feeble is  
here, perdye !

“ Neatherd, forsooth ? 'tis goatherd now, or 'faith, 'tis  
like to be ,

“ When goatherd in the rutting-time the skipping  
kids doth scan,

“ His eye grows soft, his eye grows sad, because he's  
born a man ;—

*Country-song, sing country-song, sweet Muses—*

“ So you, when ye see the lasses laughing in gay riot,

“ Your eye grows soft, your eye grows sad, because  
you share it not ”

But never a word said the poor neathérd, for a  
bitter love bare he ,

And he bare it well, as I shall tell, to the end that  
was to be

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses*

But and the Cyprian came him to, and smiled on  
him full sweetly—

For though she fain would foster wrath, she could not  
choose but smile—

And cried “ Ah, braggart Daphnis, that wouldst  
throw Love so featly !

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἦρ' οὐκ αὐτὸς Ἑρωτος ὑπ' ἀργαλέῳ ἐλυνγίχθης;  
 ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 τὰν δ' ἄρα χῶ Δάφνις ποταμείβετο· 'Κύπρι  
 βαρεῖα,

Κύπρι νεμεσσατά, Κύπρι θνατοῖσιν ἀπεχθής,  
 ἦδη γὰρ φράσδῃ πάνθ' ἄλιον ἄμμι δεδυκεῖν;  
 Δάφνις κῆν Ἀίδα κακὸν ἔσσεται ἄλγος Ἑρωτι.—  
 ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ'  
 ἀοιδᾶς—

οὐ<sup>1</sup> λέγεται τὰν Κύπριν ὁ βουκόλος; ἔρπε ποτ'  
 Ἰδαν,

ἔρπε ποτ' Ἀγχίσαν. τῆνεί δρύες ἡδὲ<sup>2</sup> κύπειρος,  
 αἱ δὲ<sup>3</sup> καλὸν βομβεῦντι ποτὶ σμάνεσσι μέλισσαι.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 ὥραϊος χῶδωνις, ἐπεὶ καὶ μῆλα νομεύει  
 καὶ πτῶκας βάλλει καὶ θηρία πάντα διώκει.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 αὐτὶς ὅπως στασῇ Διομήδεος ἄσπον ἰοῖσα,  
 καὶ λέγε· τὸν βούταν νικῶ Δάφνιν, ἀλλὰ μάχευ  
 μοι.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 ὦ λύκοι, ὦ θῶες, ὦ ἀν' ὥρεα φωλάδες ἄρκτοι,  
 χαίρεθ'. ὁ βουκόλος ὑμῖν ἐγὼ Δάφνις οὐκέτ' ἀν'  
 ὕλαν,

<sup>1</sup> οὐ Giae. mss and schol οὐδ against the dialect <sup>2</sup> ἡδὲ  
 Wil from Plutarch: mss δδε <sup>3</sup> αἱ δὲ Wil from Plutarch:  
 mss δδε

THEOCRITUS I, 98-116

Thou'rt thrown, methinks, thyself of Love's so  
grievous guile "

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses.*

Then out he spake; "O Cypris cruel, Cypris  
vengeful yet,

"Cypris hated of all flesh ' think'st all my sun be  
set ?

"I tell thee even 'mong the dead Daphnis shall  
work thee ill :—

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses—*

"Men talk of Cypris and the hind , begone to Ida  
hill,

"Begone to hind Anchises; sure bedstraw there  
doth thrive

"And fine oak-trees and pretty bees all humming  
at the hive.

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses.*

"Adonis too is ripe to woo, for a' tends his sheep o'  
the lea

"And shoots the hare and a-hunting goes of all the  
beasts there be.

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses*

"And then I'd have thee take thy stand by  
Diomed, and say

" "I slew the neatherd Daphnis: fight me thou  
to-day'

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses*

"But 'tis wolf farewell and fox farewell and bear  
o' the mountain den,

"Your neatherd fere, your Daphnis dear, ye'll  
never see agen,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὐκέτ' ἀνὰ δρυμῶς, οὐκ ἄλσεα. χαῖρ' Ἀρέθουσα  
καὶ ποταμοί, τοὶ χεῖτε καλὸν κατὰ Θυμβρίδος  
ὕδωρ.

ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' αἰοιδᾶς.  
Δάφνις ἐγὼν ὅδε τήνος ὁ τὰς βόας ὥδε νομεύων,  
Δάφνις ὁ τὼς ταύρως καὶ πόρτιας ὥδε ποτίσδων.  
ἄρχετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι πάλιν ἄρχετ' αἰοιδᾶς.

ὦ Πὰν Πάν, εἴτ' ἐσσι κατ' ὄρεα μακρὰ Λυκαίω,  
εἴτε τύγ' ἀμφιπολεῖς μέγα Μαίναλον, ἔνθ' ἐπὶ  
νῆσσον

τὰν Σικελάν, Ἐλίκας δὲ λίπε ρίου αἰπύ τε σᾶμα  
τῆνο Λυκαονίδαο, τὸ καὶ μακάρεσσιν ἀγητόν.

λήγετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι ἴτε λήγετ' αἰοιδᾶς.  
ἔνθ' ὠναξ καὶ τάνδε φέρει πακτοῖο<sup>1</sup> μελίπνουν  
ἐκ κηρῷ σύριγγα καλὰν περὶ χεῖλος ἐλκτάν·  
ἦ γὰρ ἐγὼν ὑπ' ἔρωτος ἐς Ἄιδος ἔλκομαι ἤδη.

λήγετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι ἴτε λήγετ' αἰοιδᾶς.  
νῦν ἴα μὲν φορέοιτε βάτοι, φορέοιτε δ' ἄκανθαι,  
ἅ δὲ καλὰ νάρκισσος ἐπ' ἀρκεύθοισι κομάσαι·  
πάντα δ' ἑναλλα γένοιντο, καὶ ἅ πίτυς ὄχνας  
ἐνείκαι,  
Δάφνις ἐπεὶ θνᾶσκει, καὶ τὰς κύνας ὠλαφος  
ἔλκοι,

<sup>1</sup> φέρει πακτοῖο · schol. also φέρ' εὐπάκτοιο

THEOCRITUS I, 117-135

"By glen no more, by glade no more. And 'tis  
O farewell to thee,

"Sweet Arethuse, and all pretty waters down  
Thymbris vale that flee;

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses;*

"For this, O this is that Daphnis, your kine to field  
did bring,

"This Daphnis he, led stirk and steer to you  
a-watering

*Country-song, more country-song, ye Muses*

"And Pan, O Pan, whether at this hour by Lycee's  
mountain-pile

"Or Maenal steep thy watch thou keep, come away  
to the Sicil isle,

"Come away from the knoll of Helicè and the howe  
lift high i' the lea,

"The howe of Lycæon's child, the howe that Gods in  
heav'n envye,

*Country-song, leave country-song, ye Muses;*

"Come, Master, and take this pretty pipe, this pipe  
of honey breath,

"Of wax well knit round lips to fit; for Love hales  
mé to my death.

*Country-song, leave country-song, ye Muses*

"Bear violets now ye briers, ye thistles violets  
too;

"Daffodilly may hang o' the jumper, and all things  
go askew,

"Pines may grow figs now Daphnis dies, and hind  
tear hound if she will,

"Arethusa" the fountain of Syracuse "Helicè, Lycæon's  
child" the tombs of Helice and her son Arcas were famous  
sights of Arcadia.

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

κηξ ὀρέων τοῖ σκῶπες ἀηδόσι δηρίσαιντο'.<sup>1</sup>

λήγετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι ἴτε λήγετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 χῶ μὲν τόσσ' εἰπὼν ἀπεπαύσατο· τὸν δ' Ἀφροδίτα  
 ἤθελ' ἀνορθῶσαι· τά γε μὰν λῖνα πάντα λελοῖπει  
 ἐκ Μοιρᾶν, χῶ Δάφνις ἔβα ῥόον. ἔκλυσε δῖνα 140  
 τὸν Μοίσαις φίλον ἄνδρα, τὸν οὐ Νύμφαισιν  
 ἀπεχθῆ.

λήγετε βουκολικᾶς Μοῖσαι ἴτε λήγετ' ἀοιδᾶς.

καὶ τὸ δίδου τὰν αἶγα τό τε σκύφος, ὥς κεν<sup>2</sup>  
 ἀμέλξας  
 σπείσω ταῖς Μοίσαις. ὦ χαίρετε πολλάκι Μοῖσαι,  
 χαίρετ'· ἐγὼ δ' ὕμνιν καὶ ἐς ὕστερον ἄδιον ᾄσω.

## Αἰπολοῦ

πληρὲς τοι μέλιτος τὸ καλὸν στόμα Θύρσι γένοιτο,  
 πληρὲς δὲ σχαδόνων, καὶ ἀπ' Αἰγίλῳ ἰσχάδα  
 τρώγοις  
 ἀδεῖαν, τέττιγος ἐπεὶ τύγα φέρτερον ἄδεις.  
 ἦνίδε τοι τὸ δέπας· θᾶσαι φίλος, ὥς καλὸν ὄσδει·  
 Ὀρᾶν πεπλῦσθαι νιν ἐπὶ κράναισι δοκησεῖς. 150  
 ὦδ' ἴθι Κισσαίθα, τὸ δ' ἄμελγέ νιν. αἱ δὲ χίμαιραι,  
 οὐ μὴ σκιρτασεῖτε<sup>3</sup>, μὴ ὁ τράγος ὕμνιν ἀναστῇ.

<sup>1</sup> δηρίσαιντο Scaliger from Verg. *Ecl.* 8. 55 mss γαρύσαιντο  
<sup>2</sup> κεν inss also νιν <sup>3</sup> mss σκιρτασῇτε

THEOCRITUS I, 136-152

And the sweet nightingale be outsung i' the dale  
by the scritch-owl from the hill "

*Country-song, leave country-song, ye Muses*

Such words spake he, and he stayed him still,  
and O, the Love-Ladye,

She would fain have raised him where he lay, but  
that could never be

For the thread was spun and the days were done  
and Daphnis gone to the River,

And the Nymphs' good friend and the Muses' fere  
was whelmed i' the whirl for ever.

*Country-song, leave country-song, ye Muses.*

There; give me the goat and the tankard, man;  
and the Muses shall have a libation of her milk.  
Fare you well, ye Muses, and again fare you well,  
and I'll e'en sing you a sweeter song another day.

GOATHERD

Be your fair mouth filled with honey and the  
honeycomb, good Thyrsis, be your eating of the  
sweet figs of Aegilus; for sure your singing's as  
delightful as the cricket's chirping in spring.  
Here's the cup (*taking it from his wallet*) Pray mark  
how good it smells; you'll be thinking it hath been  
washed at the well o' the Seasons Hither, Brown-  
ing, and milk her, you. A truce to your skip-  
ping, ye kids yonder, or the buckgoat will be after  
you.

## II.—THE SPELL

*THIS monologue, which preserves the dialogue-form by a dumb character, consists of two parts, in the first a Coan girl named Sīmaetha<sup>1</sup> lays a fire-spell upon her neglectful lover, the young athlete Delphis, and in the second, when her maid goes off to smear the ashes upon his lintel, she tells the Moon how his love was won and lost. The scene lies not far from the sea, at a place where three roads meet without the city, the roads being bordered with tombs. The Moon shines in the background, and in the foreground is a wayside shrine and statue of Hecate with a little altar before it. Upon this altar, in the first part of the rite, the poor girl burns successively barley-meal, bay-leaves, a waxen puppet, and some bran; next, the coming of the Goddess having been heralded by the distant barking of dogs and welcomed with the beating of brass, amid the holy silence that betokens her presence Sīmaetha pours the libation and puts up her chief prayer, lastly she burns the herb hippomanes and a piece of the fringe of her lover's cloak. The incantation which begins and ends*

<sup>1</sup> She is not a professional sorceress, see l. 91.



## THEOCRITUS II

*the four-lines stanza devoted to the burning of each of these things, as well as the two central stanzas belonging to the holy silence and the libation, is addressed to the magic four-spoked wheel which still bears the name of the bird that was originally bound to such wheels, and which is kept turning by Simaetha throughout the rite. When Thestylis withdraws with the collected ashes in the libation-bowl, her mistress begins her soliloquy. This consists of two halves, the first of which is divided, by a refrain addressed to the listening Moon, into stanzas, all, except the last, of five lines, then instead of the refrain comes the climax of the story, put briefly in two lines, and the second half begins with its tale of desertion. In the latter half the absence of the refrain with its lyric and romantic associations is intended to heighten the contrast between then and now, between the fulness of joy and the emptiness of despair. Towards the end both of the first and of the second parts of the poem there is a suggestion that Simaetha only half believes in the efficacy of her spell, for she threatens that if it fails to bring back Delphis' love to her, poison shall prevent his bestowing it elsewhere*

## II.—ΦΑΡΜΑΚΕΥΤΤΡΙΑΙ

Πᾶ μοι ταὶ δάφναι; φέρε Θέστυλι. πᾶ δὲ τὰ  
 φίλτρα;

στέψον τὰν κελέβαν φοινικέῳ οἶδς ἁώτῳ,  
 ὥς τὸν ἐμὸν βαρὺν εὖντα φίλον καταθύσομαι  
 ἄνδρα,

ὅς μοι δωδεκαταῖος ἀφ' ᾧ τάλας οὐδὲ ποθίκει,  
 οὐδ' ἔγνω, πότερον τεθνάκαμες ἢ ζοοὶ εἰμές,  
 οὐδὲ θύρας ἄραξεν ἀνάρσιος. ἦρά οἱ ἀλλᾶ  
 οἴχεται<sup>1</sup> ἔχων ὃ τ' Ἔρως ταχυνᾶς φρένας ἅ τ'  
 Ἀφροδίτα;

βασεῦμαι ποτὶ τὰν Τιμαγήτοιο παλαίστραν  
 αὐρίον, ὥς νιν ἴδω καὶ μέμψομαι οἷά με ποιεῖ.  
 νῦν δέ νιν ἐκ θυέων καταδήσομαι.<sup>2</sup> ἀλλὰ Σελάνα 10  
 φαῖνε καλόν· τὴν γὰρ ποταείσομαι, ἄσυχες<sup>3</sup>  
 δαῖμον,

τᾷ χθονίᾳ θ' Ἑκάτα, τὰν καὶ σκύλακες τρομέοντι  
 ἐρχομένην νεκύων ἀνὰ τήρια καὶ μέλαν αἶμα.  
 χαῖρ' Ἑκάτα δασπληῆτι, καὶ ἐς τέλος ἄμμιν ὁπάδει  
 φάρμακα ταῦτ' ἔρδοισα χερεῖονα μήτε τι Κίρκας  
 μήτε τι Μηδείας μήτε ξανθὰς Περιμήδας.

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὸ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
 ἄλφιτά τοι πρῶτον πυρὶ τάκεται· ἀλλ' ἐπίπασσε  
 Θεστυλί. δειλαία, πᾶ τὰς φρένας ἐκπεπότασαι;

<sup>1</sup> οἴχεται E. mss ὄχεται  
 καταθύσομαι, from l. 3

<sup>2</sup> καταδήσομαι Toup: mss  
<sup>3</sup> ἄσυχες Kiessling mss ἄσυχας,  
 from l. 100<sup>9</sup>

## II —THE SPELL

WHERE are my bay-leaves? Come, Thestylis; where are my love-charms? Come crown me the bowl with the crimson flower o' wool; I would fain have the fire-spell to my cruel dear that for twelve days hath not so much as come anigh me, the wretch, nor knows not whether I be alive or dead, nay nor even hath knocked upon my door, implacable man. I warrant ye Love and the Lady be gone away with his feat fancy. In the morning I'll to Timagetus' school and see him, and ask what he means to use me so; but, for to-night, I'll put the spell o' fire upon him

So shine me fair, sweet Moon; for to thee, still Goddess, is my song, to thee and that Hecat infernal who makes e'en the whelps to shiver on her goings to and fro where these tombs be and the red blood lies All hail to thee, dread and awful Hecat! I prithee so bear me company that this medicine of my making prove potent as any of Circe's or Medea's or Perimed's of the golden hair.

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

First barley-meal to the burning. Come, Thestylis; throw it on. Alack, poor fool! whither are thy wits gone wandering? Lord! am I become a thing

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἦρά γέ τοι μυσάρᾳ καὶ τὴν ἐπίχαρμα τέτυγμαι; 20  
πάσσο' ἅμα καὶ λέγε· 'ταῦτα τὰ Δέλφιδος ὅστια  
πάσσω.'

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὺ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
Δέλφιδος ἔμ' ἀνίασεν· ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ Δέλφιδι δάφναν  
αἶθω· χῶς αὐτὰ λακεῖ μέγα κάκφυρῖσας  
ἐξαπίνας<sup>1</sup> ἄφθη κοῦδὲ σποδὸν εἶδομες αὐτᾶς,  
οὕτω τοι καὶ Δέλφιδος ἐνὶ φλογὶ σάρκ' ἀμαθύνοι.

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὺ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
ὥς τοῦτον τὸν κῶρον<sup>2</sup> ἐγὼ σὺν δαίμονι τάκω,  
ὥς τάκοιθ' ὑπ' ἔρωτος ὁ Μύνδιος αὐτίκα Δέλφιδος.  
χῶς δινεῖθ' ὅδε ῥόμβος ὁ χάλκεος ἐξ Ἀφροδίτας, 30  
ὥς τήνος δινοῖτο ποθ' ἀμετέραισι θύραισιν.

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὺ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
νῦν θυσῶ τὰ πίτυρα. τὺ δ' Ἀρτεμι καὶ τὸν ἐν  
"Αἶδα

κινήσῃς ἀδάμαντα καὶ εἴ τί περ ἀσφαλὲς ἄλλο.  
Θεστυλί, ταὶ κύνες ἅμμιν ἀνὰ πτόλιν ὠρύονται.  
ἂ θεὸς ἐν τριόδοισι· τὸ χαλκέον ὥς τάχος ἄχει.

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὺ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
ἦνιδε σιγῇ μὲν πόντος, σιγῶντι δ' αἴηται·  
ἂ δ' ἐμὰ οὐ σιγῇ στέρνων ἐντοσθεν ἀνία,  
ἀλλ' ἐπὶ τήνῳ πᾶσα καταίθομαι, ὅς με τάλαιναν 40  
ἀντὶ γυναικὸς ἔθηκε κακὰν καὶ ἀπάρθενον εἶμεν.

Ἰυγξ, ἔλκε τὺ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
ἐς τρεῖς ἀποσπένδω καὶ τρεῖς τάδε, πότνια, φωνῶ·  
εἴτε γυνὰ τήνῳ παρακέκλιται εἴτε καὶ ἀνήρ,

<sup>1</sup> κάκφυρῖσας ἐξαπίνας *Et Mag and Hdn.* (cf. *Garin Stud. Ital. Philol. cl.* 1907): mss κακφυρῖσας (or καφυρ) κηξαπίνας  
<sup>2</sup> κῶρον E, cf. Verg. *Ecl.* 8, Hor. *Epod.* 17, Ov. *Her.* 6 91; Soph. *fr.* 481a κόρον ἀιστώσας πυρ; 15 120 mss κηρόν, from a gloss

## THEOCRITUS II, 20-44

a filthy drab like thee may crow over? On, on with the meal, and say "These be Delphis' bones I throw."

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

As Delphis hath brought me pain, so I burn the bay against Delphis And as it crackles and then lo' is burnt suddenly to nought and we see not so much as the ash of it, e'en so be Delphis' body whelmed in another flame

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither*

As this puppet melts for me before Hecat, so melt with love, e'en so speedily, Delphis of Myndus. And as this wheel of brass turns by grace of Aphrodite, so turn he and turn again before my threshold.

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

Now to the flames with the bran. O Artemis, as thou movest the adamant that is at the door of Death, so mayst thou move all else that is unmovable. Hark, Thestylis, where the dogs howl in the town. Sure the Goddess is at these cross-roads Quick, beat the pan.

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither*

Lo there! now wave is still and wind is still, though never still the pain that is in my breast; for I am all afire for him, afire alas! for him that hath made me no wife and left me to my shame no maid.

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

Thrice this libation I pour, thrice, Lady, this prayer I say: be woman at this hour or man his

Myndus · a town of Caria, opposite Cos. "Turn and turn again before my threshold". waiting to be let in; cf.  
7 122.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τόσσον ἔχοι λάθας, ὅσσον ποκὰ Θησέα φαντί  
ἐν Δία λασθήμεν ἐνπλοκάμω Ἀριάδνας.

Ἰνυξ, ἔλκε τὸ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
ἵππομανὲς φυτὸν ἔστι παρ' Ἀρκάσι, τῷ δ' ἐπὶ  
πᾶσαι

καὶ πῶλοι μαίνονται ἂν' ὄρεα καὶ θοαὶ ἵπποι.  
ὥς καὶ Δέλφιν ἴδοιμι, καὶ ἐς τόδε δῶμα περάσαι 50  
μαινομένων ἱκέλος λιπαρὰς ἔκτοσθε παλαίστρας.

Ἰνυξ, ἔλκε τὸ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
τοῦτ' ἀπὸ τᾶς χλαίνας τὸ κρύσπεδον ὤλεσε  
Δέλφεις,

ὡγὼ νῦν τίλλοισα κατ' ὑγρίῳ ἐν πυρὶ βάλλω.  
αἰαὶ Ἔρως ἀνιარέ, τί μεν μέλαν ἐκ χροὸς αἶμα  
ἐμφὺς ὡς λιμνᾶτις ἅπαν ἐκ βδέλλα πέπωκας;

Ἰνυξ, ἔλκε τὸ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.  
σαύραν τοι τρίψασα κακὸν ποτὸν αὔριον οἰσῶ.  
Θεστυλί, νῦν δὲ λαβοῖσα τὸ τὰ θρόνα ταῦθ'  
ὑπόμαζον

τᾶς τήνω φλιᾶς καθ' ὑπέρτερον ἄς ἔτι καὶ νύξ,<sup>1</sup> 60  
καὶ λέγ' ἐπιφθύζοισα· τὰ Δέλφιδος ὅστια μάσσω.<sup>2</sup> 62

Ἰνυξ, ἔλκε τὸ τήνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα τὸν ἄνδρα.

νῦν δὴ μῶνα ἐοῖσα πόθεν τὸν ἔρωτα δακρύσω;  
τηνῶθ' ἄρξεῦμαι,<sup>3</sup> τίς μοι κακὸν ἄγαγε τοῦτο.

ἦνθ' ἂ τωῦβούλοιο καναφόρος ἄμμιν Ἀναξὼ  
ἄλσος ἐς Ἀρτέμιδος, τᾷ δὴ πύκα<sup>4</sup> πολλὰ μὲν ἄλλα  
θηρία πομπεύεσκε περισταδόν, ἐν δὲ λέαινα.

φράξέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.

<sup>1</sup> νύξ Buecheler: mss νῦν      <sup>2</sup> μάσσω Ahlwardt: mss πάσσω,  
from l. 21      <sup>3</sup> τηνῶθ' ἄρξεῦμαι Wil: mss ἐκ τήνω δ' ἄρξω or ἐκ  
τίνος ἀρξάμαι (and ἄρξομαι)      <sup>4</sup> πύκα Th. Fritzsche: mss ποκα

61 ἐκ θυμῷ δέδεμαι, δ δέ μεν λόγων οὐδένα ποιεῖ, not in the best  
mss

## THEOCRITUS II, 45-69

love-mate, O be that mate forgotten even as old  
Theseus, once forgot the fair-tressed damsel in Dia

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

Horse-madness is a herb grows in Arcady, and  
makes every filly, every flying mare run a-raving in  
the hills. In like case Delphis may I see, aye,  
coming to my door from the oil and the wrestling-  
place like one that is raving mad

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

This fringe hath Delphis lost from his cloak, and  
this now pluck I in pieces and fling away into the  
ravens flame. Woe's me, remorseless Love ! why  
hast clung to me thus, thou muddy leech, and  
drained my flesh of the red blood every drop ?

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither.*

I'll bray thee an eft to-morrow, and an ill drink  
thou shalt find it. But for to-night take thou  
these ashes, Thestylis, while 'tis yet dark, and  
smear them privily upon his lintel above, and spit  
for what thou doest and say "Delphis' bones I  
smear"

*Wryneck, wryneck, draw him hither*

Now I am alone Where shall I begin the lament  
of my love ? Here be 't begun ; I'll tell who 'twas  
brought me to this pass.

One day came Anaxo daughter of Eubulus our  
way, came a-basket-bearing in procession to the  
temple of Artemis, with a ring of many beasts about  
her, a lioness one

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

"Dia" Naxos, where Theseus abandoned Ariadne "Spit  
for what thou doest" to avert ill-luck

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καί μ' ἄ Θευμαρίδα Θραῦσσα τροφός, ἄ μακαρίτις,  
 ἀγκίθυρος<sup>1</sup> ναίοισα, κατεύξατο καὶ λιτάνυσσε  
 τὰν πομπὰν θάσασθαι· ἐγὼ δέ οἱ ἄ μέγαλοιτος  
 ὠμάρτευν βύσσοιο καλὸν σύροισα χιτῶνα  
 κάμφιστειλαμένα τὰν ξυστίδα τὰν Κλεαρίστας.

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
 ἤδη δ' εὖσα μέσαν κατ' ἀμαξιτόν, ἃ τὰ Λύκωνος,  
 εἶδον Δέλφιν ὁμοῦ τε καὶ Εὐδάμιππον ἰόντας,  
 τοῖς δ' ἦς ξανθοτέρα μὲν ἐλιχρύσοιο γενειάς,  
 στήθεα δὲ στίλβοντα πολὺν πλέον ἢ τὴν Σελάνα,  
 ὡς ἀπὸ γυμνασίοιο καλὸν πόνον ἄρτι λιπόντων.

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
 ὡς ἴδον, ὡς ἐμάνην, ὡς μοι περὶ θυμὸς ἰάφθη  
 δειλαίας· τὸ δὲ κάλλος ἐτάκετο, κοῦδε τι πομπᾶς  
 τήνας ἐφρασάμαν· οὐδ' ὡς πάλιν οἴκαδ' ἀπήνθον  
 ἔγνω· ἀλλὰ μέ τις καπυρὰ νόσος ἐξαλάπαξε·<sup>2</sup>  
 κείμεν δ' ἐν κλιντῇρι δέκ' ἄματα καὶ δέκα  
 νύκτας.

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
 καί μεν χρώς μὲν ὁμοῖος ἐγίνετο πολλάκι θάψῃ,  
 ἔρρευν δ' ἐκ κεφαλᾶς πᾶσαι τρίχες, αὐτὰ δὲ  
 λοιπά

ὅστι' ἔτ' ἦς καὶ δέρμα. καὶ ἐς τίνος οὐκ ἐπέρασα,  
 ἢ ποίας ἔλιπον γραίας δόμον, αἷτις ἐπᾶδεν;  
 ἀλλ' ἦς οὐδὲν ἐλαφρόν· ὁ δὲ χρόνος αὖνυτο φεύγων.

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
 χούτῳ τᾷ δούλῳ τὸν ἀλαθέα μῦθον ἔλεξα·  
 εἰ δ' ἄγε Θεστυλί μοι χαλεπᾶς νόσω εὐρέ τι μῆχος.  
 πᾶσαν ἔχει με τάλαιναν ὁ Μύνδιος· ἀλλὰ μολοῖσα

<sup>1</sup> ἀγκίθυρος E. mss ἀγχ

<sup>2</sup> Schol also ἐξεσάλαξε



## THEOCRITUS II, 70-96

Now Theumaridas' Thracian nurse that dwelt next door, gone ere this to her rest, had begged and prayed me to go out and see the pageant, and so—ill was my luck—I followed her, in a long gown of fine silk, with Clearista's cloak over it

*List, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

I was halfway o' the road, beside Lycon's, when lo ! I espied walking together Delphis and Eudamippus, the hair o' their chins as golden as cassidony, and the breasts of them, for they were on their way from their pretty labour at the school, shone full as fair as thou, great Moon.

*List, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

And O the pity of it ! in a moment I looked and was lost, lost and smit i' the heart, the colour went from my cheek ; of that brave pageant I bethought me no more. How I got me home I know not ; but this I know, a parching fever laid me waste and I was ten days and ten nights abed.

*List, good Moon, where I learnt my loving*

And I would go as wan and pale as any dyer's-boxwood ; the hairs o' my head began to fall ; I was nought but skin and bone. There's not a charmer in the town to whom I resorted not, nor witch's hovel whither I went not for a spell. But 'twas no easy thing to cure a malady like that, and time sped on apace.

*List, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

At last I told my woman all the truth. "Go to, good Thestylis," cried I, "go find me some remedy for a sore distemper. The Myndian, alack ! he possesseth me altogether. Go thou, pray, and watch

"Clearista" perhaps her sister.  
Everlasting or Golden-Tufts

"Cassidony" the

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τήρησον ποτὶ τὰν Τιμαγήτοιο παλαίστραν·  
τηνεὶ γὰρ φοιτῇ, τηνεὶ δέ οἱ ἄδ' καθήσθαι.

φράζέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα·  
κῆπεϊ κά νιν ἐόντα μάθης μόνον, ἄσυχ' αὖ νευσον  
κεῖφ' ὅτι Σιμαίθα τυ καλεῖ, καὶ ὑφαγέο τᾶδε.  
ὥς ἐφάμαν· ἃ δ' ἦνθε καὶ ἄγαγε τὸν λιπαρόχρων  
εἰς ἐμὰ δώματα Δέλφιν· ἐγὼ δέ νιν ὥς ἐνόησα  
ἄρτι θύρας ὑπὲρ οὐδὸν ἀμειβόμενον ποδὶ κούφῳ,—

φράζέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα—  
πᾶσα μὲν ἐψύχθην χιόνος πλέον, ἐκ δὲ μετώπῳ  
ιδρώς μεν κοχύδεσκεν ἴσον νοτίαισιν ἑέρσαις,  
οὐδέ τι φωνῆσαι δυνάμαν, οὐδ' ὅσσον ἐν ὕπνῳ  
κνυζῶνται φωνεῦντα φίλαν ποτὶ ματέρα τέκνα·  
ἀλλ' ἐπάγην δαγῦδι καλὸν χροῶ πάντοθεν ἴσα.

φράζέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
καί μ' ἐσιδὼν ὥστοργος ἐπὶ χθονὸς ὄμματα πάξας  
ἔξετ' ἐπὶ κλιντῇρι καὶ ἐξόμενος φάτο μῦθον·  
'ἦρά με Σιμαίθα τύσον ἔφθασας, ὅσσον ἐγὼ θην  
πρᾶν ποκα τὸν χαρίεντα τρέχων ἔφθασσα Φιλῖνον,  
ἐς τὸ τεδὸν καλέσασα τόδε στέγος ἢ μὲ παρῆμεν.

φράζέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
ἦνθον γάρ κεν ἐγών, ναὶ τὸν γλυκὺν ἦνθον Ἐρωτα  
ἢ τρίτος ἢ τέταρτος ἐὼν φίλος αὐτίκα νυκτός,  
μᾶλα μὲν ἐν κόλποισι Διωνύσοιο φυλάσσω,  
κρατὶ δ' ἔχων λεύκαν, Ἡρακλέος ἱερὸν ἔρνος,  
πάντοθε πορφυρέαισι περὶ ζώστραισιν ἐλκτάν.

φράζέο μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.

## THEOCRITUS II, 97-123

for him by Timagetus' wrestling-place · 'tis thither he resorts, 'tis there he loves well to sit.

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

“And when so be thou be'st sure he's alone, give him a gentle nod o' the head and say Simaetha would see him, and bring him hither” So bidden she went her ways and brought him that was so sleek and gay to my dwelling. And no sooner was I ware of the light fall o's foot across my threshold,—

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving—*

than I went cold as ice my body over, and the sweat dripped like dewdrops from my brow; aye, and for speaking I could not so much as the whimper of a child that calls on's mother in his sleep; for my fair flesh was gone all stiff and stark like a puppet's.

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

When he beheld me, heartless man! he fixed his gaze on the ground, sat him upon the bed, and sitting thus spake: “Why, Simaetha, when thou bad'st me hither to this thy roof, marry, thou didst no further outrun my own coming than I once outran the pretty young Philnus.

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

“For I had come of myself, by sweet Love I had, of myself the very first hour of night, with comrades twain or more, some of Dionysus' own apples in my pocket, and about my brow the holy aspen sprig of Heracles with gay purple ribbons wound in and out.

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

“Heartless man”: to behave so and then desert me. “Philnus” of Cos, here spoken of as a youth; he won at Olympia in 264 and 260.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καί κ' εἰ μὲν μ' ἐδέχεσθε, τὰ δ' ἥς φίλα· καὶ γὰρ  
ἐλαφρὸς

καὶ καλὸς πάντεσσι μετ' ἡιθέοισι καλεῖμαι,  
εὐαδέ<sup>1</sup> τ' εἰ μῶνον τὸ καλὸν στόμα τεύς ἐφίλησα·  
εἰ δ' ἀλλὰ μ' ὠθεῖτε καὶ ἅ θύρα εἶχετο μοχλῷ,  
πάντως καὶ πελέκεις καὶ λαμπάδες ἦνθον ἐφ' ὑμέας.

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα.  
νῦν δὲ χάριν μὲν ἔφαν τῇ Κύπριδι πρῶτον ὀφείλειν,  
καὶ μετὰ τὰν Κύπριν τὴν με δευτέρα ἐκ πυρὸς εἴλεν  
ὦ γυναῖ ἐσκαλέσασα τὸν ποτὶ τοῦτο μέλαθρον  
αὐτῶς ἡμίφλεκτον· Ἔρως δ' ἄρα καὶ Λιπαραίῳ  
πολλάκις Ἀφαιστοιο σέλας φλογερώτερον αἶθει—

φράζεό μεν τὸν ἔρωθ' ὅθεν ἵκετο, πότνα Σελάνα—  
σὺν δὲ κακαῖς μανίαις καὶ παρθένον ἐκ θαλάμοιο  
καὶ νύμφαν ἐσόβησ'<sup>2</sup> ἔτι δέμνια θερμὰ λιποῖσαν  
ἀνέρος· ὥς δ' μὲν εἶπεν· ἐγὼ δέ οἱ ἅ ταχυπειθῆς  
χειρὸς ἐφαψαμένα μαλακῶν ἔκλιν' ἐπὶ λέκτρων·  
καὶ ταχὺ χρῶς ἐπὶ χρωτὶ πεπαίνειτο, καὶ τὰ  
πρόσωπα

θερμότερ' ἥς ἢ πρόσθε, καὶ ἐψιθυρίσδομες ἀδύ.  
ὥς καί<sup>3</sup> τοι μὴ μακρὰ φίλα θρυλέοιμι Σελάνα,  
ἐπράχθη τὰ μέγιστα, καὶ ἐς πόθον ἦνθομες ἄμφω.

κοῦτε τι τήνος ἐμὴν ἐπεμέμψατο μέσφα τό γ'  
ἐχθές,

οὐτ' ἐγὼ αὖ τήνω. ἀλλ' ἦνθέ μοι ἅ τε Φιλίστας  
μάτηρ τᾶς ἀμᾶς αὐλητρίδος ἅ τε Μελιξοῦς  
σάμερον, ἀνίκα πέρ τε ποτ' ὠρανὸν ἔτραχον ἵπποι  
'Αῶ τὰν ῥοδόπαχυν ἱπ' Ὀκεανοῖο φέροισαι,

<sup>1</sup> εὐαδέ L. Schmidt mss εὐδον  
schol., cf 13 48 mss ἐφόβησ'  
and Laur 32 16 · other mss κἀ

<sup>2</sup> ἐσόβησ' Jacobs from  
καὶ Wil from Vat. 915

## THEOCRITUS II, 124-148

"And had ye received me so, it had been joy ;  
for I have a name as well for beauty of shape as  
speed of foot with all the bachelry o' the town,  
and I had been content so I had only kissed thy  
pretty lips But and if ye had sent me packing with  
bolt and bar, then I warrant ye axes and torches had  
come against you.

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving.*

"But, seeing thou hadst sent for me, I vowed my  
thanks to the Cyprian first—but after the Cyprian  
'tis thou, in calling me to this roof, sweet maid, didst  
snatch the brand from a burning that was all but  
done ; for i' faith, Cupid's flare oft will outblaze the  
God o' Lipara himself,—

*Last, good Moon, where I learnt my loving--*

"And with the dire frenzy of him bride is  
driven from groom ere his marriage-bed be cold,  
much more a maid from the bower of her virginity "  
So he ended, and I, that was so easy to win,  
took him by the hand and made him to lie along  
the bed. Soon cheek upon cheek grew ripe, our  
faces waxed hotter, and lo' sweet whispers went  
and came My prating shall not keep thee too  
long, good Moon : enough that all was done, enough  
that both desires were sped

And till 'twas but yesterday, he found never  
a fault in me nor I in him But lo' to-day, when  
She o' the Rose-red Arms began her swift chariot-  
ing from sea to sky, comes me the mother of  
Melixo and of our once flute-girl Philista, and

"I have a name" the self-complimentary details of  
Delphis' speech are due to the reporter "God of  
Lipara" the Liparaean Islands contain volcanoes "Our  
flute-girl" the girl who used to play to him and me, the

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

*κεῖπέ μοι ἄλλα τε πολλὰ καὶ ὥς ἄρα Δέλφιν ἔραται.  
 κεῖτε νιν αὐτε γυναικὸς ἔχει πόθος εἴτε καὶ ἀνδρός,  
 οὐκ ἔφατ' ἀτρεκὲς ἴδμεν, ἀτὰρ τόσον· 'αἶν' Ἐρωτος  
 ἀκράτῳ ἐπεχείτο καὶ ἐς τέλος ὄχετο φεύγων,  
 καὶ φάτο οἱ στεφάνοισι τὰ δώματα τῆνα πυκαξεῖν.<sup>1</sup>  
 ταῦτά μοι ἂ ξείνα μυθήσατο, ἔστι δ' ἀλαθής.  
 ἦ γάρ μοι καὶ τρὶς καὶ τετράκις ἄλλοκ' ἐφοίτη,  
 καὶ παρ' ἐμὶν ἐτίθει τὰν Δωρίδα πολλάκις ὄλπαν·  
 νῦν δὲ δυωδεκαταῖος<sup>2</sup> ἀφ' ὧτέ νιν οὐδὲ ποτεῖδον.  
 ἦρ' οὐκ ἄλλο τι τερπνὸν ἔχει, ἀμῶν δὲ λέλασται;  
 νῦν μὰν τοῖς φίλτροις καταθύσομαι· αἶ δ' ἔτι  
 κά με<sup>3</sup>*

*λυπῇ, τὰν Ἀίδαο πύλαν, ναὶ Μοίρας, ἀραξεῖ  
 τοῖά οἱ ἐν κίστῃ κακὰ φάρμακα φαμὶ φυλάσσειν  
 Ἀσσυρίῳ, δέσποινα, παρὰ ξείνοιο μαθοῖσα.  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν χαίροισα ποτ' ὠκεανὸν τρέπε πῶλως,  
 πότνι· ἐγὼ δ' οἰσῶ τὸν ἐμὸν πόθον ὥσπερ ὑπέσταν.<sup>4</sup>  
 χαῖρε Σελαναία λιπαρόχροε, χαίρετε τῶλλοι<sup>5</sup>  
 ἀστέρες εὐκάλοιο κατ' ἀντυγα Νυκτὸς ὀπαδοί.*

<sup>1</sup> πυκαξεῖν E mss πυκάσδεν <sup>2</sup> δυωδ. Wil mss τε δωδ  
<sup>3</sup> κά με Ahrens. mss κῆμέ <sup>4</sup> Cf Cl Rev 1911, p 68  
<sup>5</sup> τῶλλοι E mss δ' (οἱ κ') ἄλλοι

## THEOCRITUS II, 149-166

among divers other talk would have me believe Delphis was in love. And she knew not for sure, so she said, whether this new love were of maid or of man, only "he was ever drinking" quoth she "to the name of Love, and went off in haste at the last saying his love-garlands were for such-and-such a house." So ran my gossip's story, and sure 'tis true; for ah! though time was, i' faith, when he would come thrice and four times a day, and often left his Dorian flask with me to fetch again, now 'tis twelve days since I so much as set eyes upon him. I am forgot, for sure; his joy doth lie otherways

To-night these my fire-philtres shall lay a spell upon him; but if so be they make not an end of my trouble, then, so help me Fate, he shall be found knocking at the gate of Death; for I tell thee, good Mistress, I have in my press medicines evil enough, that one out of Assyria told me of. So fare thee well, great Lady; to Ocean with thy team. And I, I will bear my love as best I may. Farewell sweet Lady o' the Shining Face, and all ye starry followers in the train of drowsy Night, farewell, farewell.

same is still employed by Delphis, and it is through her mother that Simaetha learns that he loves another, a second daughter of the same woman being one of Simaetha's serving-maids "Assyria" - the land of magic herbs.





### III —THE SERENADE

THE poet appears to personate a young goatherd, who after five lines dedicatory to a friend whom he calls Tityrus, serenades his mistress Amaryllis. The poem is a monologue, but, like II, preserves the dialogue-form of the mime by means of a dumb character. The appeal to Amaryllis may be regarded as consisting of three parts each ending with the offer of a gift—apples, garland, goat—and a fourth part containing a love-song of four stanzas. The reciter would doubtless make a slight pause to mark the rejection of each gift and the failure of the song before the renewal of the cry of despair.

### III.—ΚΩΜΟΣ

Κωμάσδω ποτὶ τὰν Ἀμαρυλλίδα, ταὶ δέ μοι αἶγες  
βόσκονται κατ' ὄρος, καὶ ὁ Τίτυρος αὐτὰς ἐλαύνει.  
Τίτυρ' ἐμὴν τὸ καλὸν πεφιλημένε, βόσκει τὰς αἶγας,  
καὶ ποτὶ τὰν κράναν ἄγε Τίτυρε, καὶ τὸν ἐνόρχαν,  
τὸν Λιβυκὸν κνάκωνα, φυλάσσεο μὴ τυ κορύψῃ.

ὦ χαρίεσσ' Ἀμαρυλλί, τί μ' οὐκέτι τοῦτο κατ'  
ἄντρον

παρκύπτοισα καλεῖς; τὸν ἐρωτύλον ἦρά με μισεῖς;  
ἦρά γέ τοι σιμὸς καταφαίνομαι ἐγγύθεν ἡμεν,  
νύμφα, καὶ προγένειος; ἀπάγξασθαί με ποησεῖς.  
ἡνίδε τοι δέκα μᾶλα φέρω. τῆνῳθε καθεῖλον, 10  
ὦ μ' ἐκέλευε καθελεῖν τύ· καὶ αὔριον ἄλλα τοι οἰσῶ

θᾶσαι μάν· θυμαλγὲς ἐμὴν ἄχος. αἶθε γενοίμαν  
ἀβομβεύσα μέλισσα καὶ ἐς τεὸν ἄντρον ἰκοίμαν  
τὸν κισσὸν διαδύς καὶ τὰν πτέρυν, ἧ τὴν πυκάσδεις.  
νῦν ἔγων τὸν Ἑρωτα· βαρὺς θεός· ἦρα λεαίνας  
μαζὸν ἐθήλαξε<sup>1</sup>, δρυμῶ τέ νιν ἔτραφε μάτηρ·  
ὥς<sup>2</sup> με κατασμύχων καὶ ἐς ὅστιον ἄχρῃς ἰάπτει.  
ὦ τὸ καλὸν ποθορῶσα, τὸ πᾶν λίθος· ὦ κυάνοφρυ  
νύμφα, πρόσπτυξαί με τὸν αἰπόλον, ὥς τυ φιλήσω.  
ἔστι καὶ ἐν κενεοῖσι φιλήμασιν ἀδέα τέρψις. 20  
τὸν στέφανον τίλαί με κατ' αὐτίκα λεπτὰ ποησεῖς,  
τόν τοι ἐγὼν Ἀμαρυλλὶ φίλα κίσσοιο φυλάσσω  
ἀμπλέξας καλύκεσσι καὶ εὐόδομοισι σελίνοις.

<sup>1</sup> ἐθήλαξε Stobaeus : mss -αξε      <sup>2</sup> ὥς E cf. 25 53 · mss ὅς

### III —THE SERENADE

I go a-courting of Amaryllis, and my goats they go browsing on along the hill with Tityrus to drive them on. My well-beloved Tityrus, pray feed me my goats; pray lead them to watering, good Tityrus, and beware or the buckgoat, the yellow Libyan yonder, will be butting you.

Beautiful Amaryllis, why peep you no more from your cave and call me in? Hate you your sweetheart? Can it be a near view hath shown him snub-nosed, Nymph, and over-bearded? I dare swear you'll be the death of me. See, here have I brought you half a score of apples plucked yonder where you bade me pluck them, and to-morrow I'll bring you as many again . . .

Look, ah! look upon me; my heart is torn with pain. I wish I were yon humming bee to thread my way through the ivy and the fern you do prink your cave withal and enter in! O now know I well what Love is 'Tis a cruel god I warrant you a she-lion's dugs it was he sucked and in a forest was reared, so doth he slow-burn me, aye, pierce me to the very bone. O Nymph of the pretty glance, but all stone; O Nymph of the dark dark eyebrow, come clasp thy goatherd that is so fain to be kissing thee. E'en in an empty kiss there's a sweet delight. You'll make me tear in pieces the ivy-wreath I have for you, dear Amaryllis; of rosebuds twined it is, and of fragrant parsley leaves . . .

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὦμοι ἐγών, τί πάθω, τί ὁ δύσσοος; οὐχ ὑπα-  
κούεις.

τὰν βαίταν ἀποδὺς εἰς κύματα τηνῶ ἀλεύμαι,  
ὥπερ τὼς θύννως σκοπιάζεται Ὀλπις ὁ γριπεύς·  
καῖκα μὴ ᾽ποθάνω, τό γε μὰν τεὸν ἄδὺ τέτυκται.  
ἔγνω πρᾶν, ὅκ' ἐμεῦ μεμναμένω, εἰ φιλέεις με,  
οὐδὲ τὸ τηλέφιλον ποτεμάξατο τὸ πλατάγημα,  
ἀλλ' αὐτὼς ἀπαλῶ ποτὶ πάχεος<sup>1</sup> ἐξεμαράνθη· 30  
εἶπε καὶ Ἀγροῖω τᾶλαθέα κοσκινόμαντις,  
ἃ πρᾶν ποιολογεῦσα παραιβάτις, ὧνεκ' ἐγὼ μὲν  
τὴν ὄλος ἔγκειμαι, τὸ δέ μεν λόγον οὐδένα ποιῇ.  
ἦ μάν τοι λευκὰν διδυματοκον αἶγα φυλάσσω,  
τάν με καὶ ἃ Μέρμνωνος ἐριθακὶς ἃ μελανόχρως  
αἰτεῖ, καὶ δωσῶ οἶ, ἐπεὶ τύ μοι ἐνδιαθρύπτῃ.

ἄλλεται ὀφθαλμός μεν ὁ δεξιός· ἥρά γ' ἰδησῶ  
αὐτάν; ἀσεῦμαι ποτὶ τὰν πίτυν ὧδ' ἀποκλινθείς·  
καὶ κέ μ' ἴσως ποτίδοι, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἀδαμαντῖνα ἐστίν·

Ἴππομένης ὅκα δὴ τὰν παρθένον ἤθελε γᾶμαι, 40  
μᾶλ' ἐν χερσὶν ἐλὼν δρόμον ἄνυσεν· ἃ δ' Ἀταλάντα  
ὥς ἶδεν, ὥς ἐμάνη, ὥς ἐς βαθὺν ἄλατ' ἔρωτα.

<sup>1</sup> ἀπαλῶ ποτὶ πάχεος, cf 12 24

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τὰν ἀγέλαν χῶ μάντις ἀπ' Ὀθρυος ἄγε Μελάμπους  
εἰς Πύλον· ἃ δὲ Βίαντος ἐν ἀγκοίνοισιν ἐκλίνθη  
μάτηρ ἃ χαρίεσσα περίφρονος Ἀλφειβοίας.  
τὰν δὲ καλὰν Κυθήρειαν ἐν ὥρεσι μῆλα νομεύων  
οὐχ οὕτως Ὡδωνις ἐπὶ πλέον ἄγαγε λύσσας,  
ὥστ' οὐδὲ φθίμενόν νιν ἄτερ μαζοῖο τίθητι;  
ζαλωτὸς μὲν ἐμὶν ὁ τὸν ἄτροπον ὕπνον ἰαύων  
Ἐνδυμίων, ζαλῶ δὲ φίλα γύναι Ἰασίωνα,  
ὃς τοσσῆν' ἐκύρησεν, ὅς' οὐ πευσεῖσθε βέβαλοι.

ἀλγέω τὰν κεφαλάν, τὴν δ' οὐ μέλει. οὐκέτ'  
αἶδω,  
κείσευμαι δὲ πεσών, καὶ τοὶ λύκοι ὧδέ μ' ἔδονται.  
ὥς μέλι τοι γλυκὺ τοῦτο κατὰ βρόχθοιο γένοιτο.

### THEOCRITUS III, 43-54

When the seer in's brother's name  
With those kine to Pylus came,  
Bias to the joy-bed hies  
Whence sprang Alpheesbee the wise.  
When Adonis o'er the sheep  
In the hills his watch did keep,  
The Love-Dame proved so wild a wooer,  
E'en in death she clips him to her.  
O would I were Endymion  
That sleeps the unchanging slumber on,  
Or, Lady, knew thy Jason's glee  
Which prófane eyes may never see! . .

My head aches sore, but 'tis nought to you. I'll  
make an end, and throw me down, aye, and stir not  
if the wolves devour me—the which I pray be as  
sweet honey in the throat to you.

seer Melampus by bringing to the king of Pylus the oxen of  
Iphiclus won the king's daughter Pero for his brother Bias.  
although he was slain long ago, Aphrodite Cytherea loves  
her Adonis so dearly that she still clasps him—at the Adonis  
festival—to her breast. Endymion was loved by the Moon,  
and Jason—as in the Eleusinian mysteries—by Demeter.



#### IV.—THE HERDSMEN

A CONVERSATION *between a goatherd named Battus and his fellow goatherd Corydon, who is acting oxherd in place of a certain Aegon who has been persuaded by one Milon son of Lampradas to go and compete in a boxing-match at Olympia. Corydon's temporary rise in rank gives occasion for some friendly banter—which the sententious fellow does not always understand—varied with bitter references to Milon's having supplanted Battus in the favours of Amaryllis. The reference to Glaucè fixes the imaginary date as contemporary with Theocritus. This is not the great Milon, but a fictitious strong man of the same town called, suitably enough, by his name*<sup>1</sup> *The poem, like all the other genuine shepherd-mimes, contains a song. Zacynthus is still called the flower of the Levant. The scene is near Crotona in Southern Italy.*

<sup>1</sup> The identification of Milon with the great athlete is incorrect. The great Milon flourished B.C. 510; the scholiast knows of no such feats in connexion with him; and the feats ascribed to him by authors ap. Athen. 10. 412 e, f, are by no means identical with these.



#### IV.—NOMEIS

BATTOΣ

Εἰπέ μοι ὦ Κορύδων, τίνος αἱ βόες, ἦρα Φιλώνδα;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

οὐκ, ἀλλ' Αἴγωνος· βόσκειν δέ μοι αὐτὰς ἔδωκεν.

BATTOΣ

ἦ πᾶ ψε κρύβδαν τὰ ποθέσπερα πάσας ἀμέλγεις;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

ἀλλ' ὁ γέρων ὑφίητι τὰ μοσχία κῆμέ φυλάσσει.

BATTOΣ

αὐτὸς δ' ἐς τίν' ἄφαντος ὁ βουκόλος ὄχετο χώραν;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

οὐκ ἄκουσας; ἄγων νιν ἐπ' Ἀλφεὸν ὄχετο Μίλων.

BATTOΣ

καὶ πόκα τήνος ἔλαιον ἐπ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὀπώπει;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

φαντί νιν Ἑρακλῆι βίην καὶ κάρτος ἐρίσδειν.

BATTOΣ

κῆμ' ἔφαθ' ἅ μᾶτηρ Πολυδεύκεος ἦμεν ἀμείνω.

#### IV —THE HERDSMEN

BATTUS (*in a bantering tone*)

What, Corydon man ; whose may your cows be ?  
Philondas's ?

CORYDON

Nay, Aegon's ; he hath given me the feeding of  
them in his stead

BATTUS

And I suppose, come evening, you give them all  
a milking hugger-mugger ?

CORYDON

Not so, the old master sees me to that ; he puts  
the calves to suck, himself.

BATTUS

But whither so far was their own proper herds-  
man gone ?

CORYDON

Did you never hear ? Milon carried him off with  
him to the Alpheus.

BATTUS

Lord ! When had the likes of him ever so much  
as set eyes upon a flask of oil ?

CORYDON (*sententiously*)

Men say he rivals Heracles in might

BATTUS (*scoffing*)

And mammy says I'm another Polydeuces.

“Oil” used by athletes upon their bodies.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

κῶχετ' ἔχων σκαπάναν τε καὶ εἵκατι τουτόθε μῆλα. 10

ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

πείσαι κα<sup>1</sup> Μίλων καὶ τῶς λύκος αὐτίκα λυσσῆν.

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

ταὶ δαμάλαι δ' αὐτὸν μυκώμεναι αἶδε ποθεῖντι.

ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

δειλαῖαι γ' αὖται, τὸν βουκόλον ὥς κακὸν εὖρον.

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

ἦ μὰν δειλαῖαί γε, καὶ οὐκέτι λῶντι νέμεσθαι.

ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

τήνας μὲν δὴ τοι τᾶς πόρτιος αὐτὰ λέλειπται  
τῶστια. μὴ πρῶκας σιτίζεται ὥσπερ ὁ τέττιξ;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

οὐ Δᾶν, ἀλλ' ὅκα μὲν νιν ἐπ' Αἰσάροιο νομεύω  
καὶ μαλακῶ χόρτοιο καλὰν κώμυθα δίδωμι,  
ἄλλοκα δὲ σκαίρει τὸ βαθύσκιον ἀμφὶ Λάτυμνον

ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

λεπτὸς μὰν χῶ ταῦρος ὁ πυρρίχος. αἶθε  
λάχοιεν

20

<sup>1</sup> κα Ahrens · mss κε, τοι, τι

## THEOCRITUS IV, 10-20

CORYDON

Well, he took a score of sheep and a spade with him, when he went

BATTUS (*with a momentary bitterness*)

Ah, that Milon! he'd persuade a wolf to run mad for the asking

CORYDON

And his heifers miss him sore; hark to their lowing.

BATTUS (*resuming his banter*)

Aye; 'twas an ill day for the kine; how sorry a herdsman it brought them!

CORYDON (*misunderstanding*)

Marry, an ill day it was, and they are off their feed now

BATTUS

Look you now, yonder beast, she's nought but skin and bone. Pray, doth she feed on dewdrops like the cricket?

CORYDON

Zeus! no. Why, sometimes I graze her along the Aesarus and give her a brave bottle of the tenderest green grass, and oftentimes her playground's in the deep shade of Latymnus.

BATTUS

Aye, and the red-poll bull, he's lean as can be (*bitterly again*) I only would to God, when there's a

"A score of sheep". athletes when training fed largely upon meat, and kept themselves in condition by shovelling sand. "Persuade a wolf". i.e. "he beguiled Aegon to compete at Olympia though he is but a poor hand at boxing (cf I 7) just as he beguiled Amaryllis away from me though she never really loved him."

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τοὶ τῷ Λαμπριάδα, τοὶ δαμόται ὄκκα θύωντι  
τᾷ Ἡρᾷ, τοιόνδε· κακοχράσμων γὰρ ὁ δᾶμος.

### ΚΟΡΤΑΔΩΝ

καὶ μὰν ἐς στομάλιμνον ἐλαύνεται ἔς τε τὰ  
Φύσκων<sup>1</sup>,  
καὶ ποτὶ τὸν Νήαιθον, ὅπα καλὰ πάντα φύονται,  
αἰγίπυρος καὶ κνύζα καὶ εὐώδης μελίτεια.

### ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

φεῦ φεῦ βασεύνται καὶ ταὶ βόες ὦ τάλαν Αἴγων  
εἰς Ἀἶδαν, ὅκα καὶ τὸ κακᾶς ἡράσσαο νίκας,  
χὰ σύριγξ εὐρώτι παλύνεται, ἄν ποκ' ἐπάξῃ.

### ΚΟΡΤΑΔΩΝ

οὐ τήνα γ', οὐ Νύμφας, ἐπεὶ ποτὶ Πῖσαν ἀφέρπων  
δῶρον ἐμὴν νιν ἔλειπεν· ἐγὼ δέ τις εἰμὶ μελικτάς, 30  
κεῖ μὲν τὰ Γλαύκας ἀγκρούομαι, εὖ δὲ τὰ Πύρρῳ·

Αἰνέω τάν τε Κρότωνα καλὰν πόλιν ἅτε Ζά-  
κυνθον<sup>2</sup>

καὶ τὸ ποταῶον τὸ Λακίνιον, ἅπερ ὁ πύκτας  
Μίλων<sup>3</sup> ὀγδῶκοντα μόνος κατεδαίσατο μάζας.  
τηνεὶ καὶ τὸν ταῦρον ἀπ' ὄρεος ἄγε πιάξας  
τᾶς ὀπλᾶς κῆδωκ' Ἀμαρυλλίδι, ταὶ δὲ γυναῖκες  
μακρὸν ἀνάνυσαν, χῶ βουκόλος ἐξεγέλασσε.

<sup>1</sup> Φύσκων so Palat 330, cf *Philologus*, 1908, p 466· other mss Φύσκω <sup>2</sup> καλὰν πόλιν ἅτε Ζάκυνθον E, cf a Laconian inscription I. A 79 ταυτᾶ ἅτε = οὕτως ὥς, and a modern folk-saying, ἡ Ζάκυνθος, ἡ Ζάκυνθος, τὸ ἄνθος τῆς Ἀνατολῆς: mss καλὰ πόλις ἅτε (or ἅ τε) Ζάκυνθος <sup>3</sup> Μίλων Naber, cf. l 7 mss and schol Αἴγων

## THEOCRITUS IV, 21-37

sacrifice to Hera in their ward, the sons of Lampridas might get such another as he : they are a foul mixen sort, they o' that ward.

CORYDON

All the same that bull's driven to the sea-lake and the Physcian border, and to that garden of good things, goat-flower, mullet, sweet odorous balsam, to wit Neaethus.

BATTUS (*sympathising as with another of Milon's victims*)

Heigho, poor Aegon ' thy very kine must needs meet their death because thou art gone a-whoring after vanglory, and the herdsman's pipe thou once didst make thyself is all one mildew

CORYDON

Nay, by the Nymphs, not it    He bequeathed it to me when he set out for Pisa    I too am something of a musician    Mark you, I'm a dabster at Glaucè's snatches and those ditties Pyrrhus makes. (*sings*)

O Croton is a bonny town as Zacynth by the sea,  
And a bonny sight on her eastward height is the fane of Laciný,

Where boxer Milon one fine morn made fourscore loaves his meal,

And down the hill another day,  
While lasses holla'd by the way,  
To Amaryllis, laughing gay  
Led the bull by the heel.

"Might get such another" the greater part of a sacrificed animal was eaten by the sacrificers

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

ὦ χαρίεσσ' Ἀμαρυλλί, μόνας σέθεν οὐδὲ θανοίσας  
λασεύμεσθ'· ὅσον αἶγες ἐμὴν φίλαι, ὅσον ἀπέσβης.  
αἰαὶ τῷ σκληρῷ μάλα δαίμονος, ὅς με λελόγχει. 40

### ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

θαρσεῖν χρὴ φίλε Βάττε τάχ' αὖριον ἔσσετ'  
ἄμεινον.  
ἐλπίδες ἐν ζωοῖσιν, ἀνέλπιστοι δὲ θανόντες.  
χῶ Ζεὺς ἄλλοκα μὲν πέλει αἴθριος, ἄλλοκα δ' ὕει.

### ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

θαρσέω. βάλλε κάτωθε, τὰ μοσχία.<sup>1</sup> τᾶς γὰρ  
ἐλαίας  
τὸν θαλλὸν τρώγοντι τὰ δύσσοα.

### ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

σίτθ' ὁ Λέπαργος,  
σίτθ' ἂ Κυμαίθα ποτὶ τὸν λόφον. οὐκ ἔσακούεις;  
ἤξω ναὶ τὸν Πᾶνα κακὸν τέλος αὐτίκα δωσὼν,  
εἰ μὴ ἄπει τουτῶθεν. ἴδ' αὖ πάλιν ἄδε ποθέρπει.  
εἴθ' ἥς μοι ροικόν τι<sup>2</sup> λαγωβόλον, ὥς τυ πάταξα. 50

### ΒΑΤΤΟΣ

θᾶσαί μ' ὦ Κορύδων ποττῷ Διός· ἂ γὰρ ἄκανθα  
ἄρμοί μ' ὦδ' ἐπάταξ' ὑπὸ τὸ σφυρόν. ὥς δὲ  
βαθεῖαι  
τὰ τρακτυλλίδες ἐντί. κακῶς ἂ πόρτις ὄλοιτο·  
εἰς ταύταν ἐτύπην χασμευμενος. ἦρά γε λεύσεις;

### ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

ναὶ ναί, τοῖς ὀνύχεσσι νύχτω τέ νιν· ἄδε καὶ αὐτά.

<sup>1</sup> βάλλε κάτωθε, τὰ μ. E, of βάλλ' ἐς κόρακας. others βάλλε  
κάτωθε τὰ μ. <sup>2</sup> ροικόν τι Hermann · mss ρ. τὸ οἱ τυ

## THEOCRITUS IV, 38-55

BATTUS (*not proof against the tactless reference ;  
apostrophising*)

O beautiful Amaryllis, though you be dead, I am true, and I'll never forget you My pretty goats are dear to me, but dear no less a maiden that is no more O well-a-day that my luck turned so ill !

CORYDON

Soft you, good Battus ; be comforted. Good luck comes with another morn ; while there's life there's hope , rain one day, shine the next

BATTUS

Let be ! 'tis well. (*changing the subject*) Up with you, ye calves ; up the hill ! They are at the green of those olives, the varlets

CORYDON

Hey up, Snowdrop ! hey up, Goodbody ! to the hill wi' ye ! Art thou deaf ? 'Fore Pan I'll presently come thee an evil end if thou stay there Look ye there ; back she comes again Would there were but a hurl-bat in my hand ! I had had at thee

BATTUS

Zeus save thee, Corydon ; see here ! It had at me as thou saidst the word, this thorn, here under my ankle. And how deep the spindle-thorns go ! A plague o' thy heifer ! It all came o' my gaping after her (*Corydon comes to help him*) Dost see him, lad ?

CORYDON

Aye, aye, and have got him 'twixt my nails ; and lo ! here he is.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

BATTOΣ

ὁσσίχον ἐστὶ τὸ τύμμα καὶ ἀλίκον ἄνδρα δαμάζει.

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

εἰς ὄρος ὅκχ' ἔρπης, μὴ νήλιπος ἔρχεο Βάττε·  
ἐν γὰρ ὄρει ῥάμνοι τε καὶ ἀσπάλαθοι κομέονται.

BATTOΣ

εἴπ' ἄγε μ' ὦ Κορύδων, τὸ γερόντιον ἦρ' ἔτι μύλλει  
τήναν τὰν κυάνοφρυν ἐρωτίδα, τᾶς ποκ' ἐκνίσθη;

ΚΟΡΥΔΩΝ

ἀκμάν γ' ὦ δειλαῖε· πρόαν γέ μεν αὐτὸς ἐπενθὼν  
καὶ ποτὶ τᾷ μάνδρᾳ κατελάμβανον ἄμος ἐνήργει.

BATTOΣ

εὖ γ' ὠνθρωπε φιλοῖφα· τό τοι γένος ἢ Σατυρίσκοις  
ἐγγύθεν ἢ Πάνεσσι κακοκνάμοισιν ἐρίσδεις.

## THEOCRITUS IV, 56-63

BATTUS (*in mock-heroic strain*)

O what a little tiny wound to oveimaster so mighty a man!

CORYDON (*pointing the moral*)

Thou should'st put on thy shoes when thou goest into the hills, Battus, 'tis rare ground for thorns and gorse, the hills

BATTUS

Pray tell me, Corydon, comes gaffer yet the gallant with that dark-browed piece o' love he was smitten of?

CORYDON

Aye, that does he, ill's his luck. I happened of them but two days ago, and near by the byre, too, and faith, gallant was the word.

BATTUS (*apostrophising*)

Well done, goodman Light-o'-love 'Tis plain thou comest not far below the old Satyrs and ill-shanked Pans o' the country-side for lineage.

"Old Satyrs". effigies of Pan and the Satyrs were a feature of the country-side



## V.—THE GOATHERD AND THE SHEPHERD

*THE scene of this shepherd-mime is laid in the wooded pastures near the mouth of the river Crathis in the district of Sybaris and Thurii in Southern Italy. The foreground is the shore of a lagoon near which stand effigies of the Nymphs who preside over it, and there is close by a rustic statue of Pan of the seaside. The characters are a goatherd named Comatas and a young shepherd named Lacon who are watching their flocks. Having seated themselves some little distance apart, they proceed to converse in no very friendly spirit, and the talk gradually leads to a contest of song with a woodcutter named Morson for the judge and a lamb and a goat for the stakes. The contest is a spirited, not to say a bitter, one, and consists of a series of alternate couplets, the elder man first singing his couplet and the younger then trying to better him at the same theme. The themes Comatas chooses are various, but the dominant note, as often in Theocritus, is love. In some of the lines there is more meaning than appears on the surface. After fourteen pairs of couplets, Morson breaks in before Lacon has replied and awards his lamb to Comatas.*

## V.—ΑΙΠΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΙΜΕΝΙΚΟΝ

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

Αἴγες ἐμαί, τήνον τὸν ποιμένα τὸν Συβαρίταν  
φεύγετε τὸν Λάκωνα· τό μεν νάκος ἐχθὲς ἔκλεψεν.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

οὐκ ἀπὸ τᾶς κράνας σίττ' ἀμνίδες; οὐκ ἐσορήτε  
τόν μεν τὰν σύριγγα πρὸαν κλέψαντα Κομάταν;

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

τὰν ποίαν σύριγγα; τὸ γάρ ποκα δῶλε Σιβύρτα  
ἐκτάσα σύριγγα; τί δ' οὐκέτι σὺν Κορύδωνι  
ἄρκει τοι καλάμας αὐλὸν ποππύσδεν ἔχοντι;

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

τάν μοι ἔδωκε Λύκων ὠλεύθερε. τὴν δὲ τὸ ποῖον  
Λάκων ἀγκλέψας πόκ' ἔβαν νάκος; εἶπε Κομάτα·  
οὐδὲ γὰρ Εὐμάρα τῷ δεσπότη ἦς τι ἐνεύδειν.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

τὸ Κροκύλος μοι ἔδωκε, τὸ ποικίλον, ἀνίκ' ἔθυσε  
ταῖς Νύμφαις τὰν αἶγα· τὸ δ' ὦ κακὲ καὶ τόκ'  
ἐτάκεν  
βασκαίνων, καὶ νῦν με τὰ λοίσθια γυμνὸν ἔθηκας.

## V.—THE GOATHERD AND THE SHEPHERD

COMATAS

Beware, good my goats, of yonder shepherd from Sybaris, beware of Lacon; he stole my skin-coat yesterday.

LACON

Hey up! my pretty lambkins; away from the spring. See you not Comatas that stole my pipe two days ago?

COMATAS

Pipe? Sibyrtas' bondman possessed of a pipe? he that was content to sit with Corydon and toot upon a parcel o' straws?

LACON

Yes, master freeman, the pipe Lycon gave me. And as for your skin-coat, what skin-coat and when has ever Lacon carried off o' yours? Tell me that, Comatas; why, your lord Eumaras, let alone his bondman, never had one even to sleep in

COMATAS

'Tis that Crocylus gave me, the dapple skin, after that he sacrificed that she-goat to the Nymphs. And as your foul envious eyes watered for it then, so your foul envious hands have bid me go henceforth naked now

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

οὐ μαυτὸν τὸν Πᾶνα τὸν ἄκτιον, οὐ τέ γε Λάκων  
τὰν βαίταν ἀπέδυσ' ὁ Κυλαίθιδος,<sup>1</sup> ἢ κατὰ τήνας  
τᾶς πέτρας ὠνθρωπε μανεῖς εἰς Κρᾶθιν ἀλοίμαν.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

οὐ μὰν οὐ ταύτας τὰς λιμνάδας ὠγαθὲ Νύμφας,  
αἴτε μοι ἵλαοί τε καὶ εὐμενέες τελέθιοιεν,  
οὗ τευ τὰν σύριγγα λαθὼν ἔκλεψα Κομάτας.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

αἶ τοι πιστεύσαιμι, τὰ Δάφνιδος ἄλγε' ἀροίμαν.  
ἄλλ' ὦν αἶκα λῆς ἔριφον θέμεν, ἔστι μὲν οὐδὲν  
ιερὸν, ἀλλ' ἄγε τοι διαείσομαι, ἔστε κ' ἀπείπης.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ὅς ποτ' Ἀθαναίαν ἔριν ἤρισεν. ἡνίδε κεῖται  
ὠριφος· ἀλλ' ἄγε καὶ τὸν εὐβοτον ἀμνὸν ἔρισδε.<sup>2</sup>

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

καὶ πῶς ὦ κιναδεῦ τάδ' ἐρίσσεται<sup>3</sup> ἐξ ἴσω ἄμμιν;  
τίς τρίχας ἀντ' ἐρίων ἐποκίξατο; τίς δὲ παρεύσας  
αἰγὸς, πρατοτόκοιο κακὰν κύνα δήλετ' ἀμέλγειν;

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ὅστις νικασεῖν τὸν πλατίον ὥς τὸν πεποίθει,<sup>4</sup>  
σφάξ βομβέων τέττιγος ἐναντίον. ἀλλὰ γὰρ  
οὗ τι

ὠριφος ἰσοπαλὴς τοι,<sup>5</sup> ἴδ' ὁ τράγος οὗτος· ἔρισδε.

<sup>1</sup> Κυλαίθιδος Bechtel from Herodas 6 50. mss Καλ <sup>2</sup> ἔρισδε  
accus of stake mss also ἔρειδε <sup>3</sup> τάδ' ἐρίσσεται (passive)  
E. mss τάδ' (τάγ', τάδε γ') ἔσσεται <sup>4</sup> πεποίθει Heinsius:  
mss πεποίσεις <sup>5</sup> τοι Ahrens mss τυ

## THEOCRITUS V, 14-30

LACON

Nay, nay, by Pan o' the Shore; Lacon son of Cylaethis never filched coat of thine, fellow, may I run raving mad else and leap into the Crathis from yonder rock.

COMATAS

No, no, by these Nymphs o' the lake, man; so surely as I wish 'em kind and propitious, Comatas never laid sneaking hand on pipe o' thine.

LACON

Heaven send me the affliction of Daphnis if e'er I believe that tale. But enough of this, if thou'lt wage me a kid—'tis not worth the candle, but nevertheless come on; I'll have a contention o' song with thee till thou cry hold.

COMATAS

'Tis the old story—teach thy grandam. There; my wage is laid. And thou, for thine, lay me thy fine fat lamb against it.

LACON

Thou fox! prithee how shall such laying fadge? As well might one shear himself hair when a' might have wool, as well choose to milk a foul bitch before a young milch-goat.

COMATAS

He that's as sure as thou that he'll vanquish his neighbour is like the wasp buzzing against the cricket's song. But 'tis all one, my kid it seems is no fair stake. So look, I lay thee this full-grown he-goat; and now begin

“Teach thy grandam” the Greek is “the sow contended against Athena” “Fadge” be suitable.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

μὴ σπεῦδ'· οὐ γάρ τοι πυρὶ θάλπεαι. ἄδιον ἄσῃ  
τεῖδ' ὑπὸ τὰν κότινον καὶ τᾶλσεα ταῦτα καθίζας.  
ψυχρὸν ὕδωρ τηνεῖ καταλείβεται· ὧδε πεφύκει  
ποῖα χά στιβὰς ἄδε, καὶ ἀκρίδες ὧδε λαλεῦντι.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἀλλ' οὐ τι σπεύδω· μέγα δ' ἄχθομαι, εἰ τύ με τολμῆς  
ὕμμασι τοῖσδ'<sup>1</sup> ὀρθοῖσι ποτιβλέπεν, ὅν ποκ' ἔοντα  
παῖδ' ἔτ' ἐγὼν ἐδίδασκον. ἴδ' ἂ χάρις εἰς τί  
ποθέρπει.

θρέψαι τοι λυκιδεῖς, θρέψαι κυνάς, ὥς τυ φάγωντι.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

καὶ πόκ' ἐγὼν παρὰ τεῦς τι μαθὼν καλὸν ἢ καὶ  
ἀκούσας  
μέμναμ', ὧ φθονερὸν τὸ καὶ ἀπρεπές<sup>2</sup> ἀνδρίου  
αὐτῶς.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἀνίκ' ἐπύγιζόν τυ, τὸ δ' ἄλγεες· αἱ δὲ χίμαιραι  
αἶδε κατεβληχῶντο, καὶ ὁ τράγος αὐτὰς ἐτρύπη

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

μὴ βάθιον τήνω πυγίσματος ὕβε ταφείης.  
ἀλλὰ γὰρ ἔρφ', ὧδ' ἔρπε, καὶ ὕστατα βουκο-  
λιαξῇ.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

οὐχ ἐρφῶ τηνεῖ· τουτεῖ δρύες, ὧδε κύπειρος,  
ὧδε καλὸν βομβεῦντι ποτὶ σμάνεσσι μέλισσαι·  
ἐνθ' ὕδατος ψυχρῶ κρᾶναι δύο· ταὶ δ' ἐπὶ δένδρει  
ὄρνιαχες λαλαγεῦντι· καὶ ἂ σκιὰ σὺδὲν ὁμοία  
τᾷ παρὰ τίν· βάλλει δὲ καὶ ἂ πίτυς ὑψόθε κώνοις.

<sup>1</sup> ὕμμασι τοῖσδ' Hermann mss ὁ τοῖς

## THEOCRITUS V, 31-49

LACON

Soft, soft, no fire's burning thee    You'll sing  
better sitting under the wild olive and this coppice.  
There's cool water falling yonder, and here's grass  
and a greenbed, and the locusts at their prattling.

COMATAS

I'm in no haste, not I, but in sorrow rather that  
you dare look me in the face, I that had the teaching  
of you when you were but a child    Lord! look  
where kindness goes    Nurse a wolf-cub,—nay rather,  
nurse a puppy-dog—to be eaten for't.

LACON

And when, pray, do I mind me to have learnt or  
heard aught of good from thee?    Fie upon thee for  
a mere envious and churlish piece of a man!

COMATAS

*Cum ego te paedicabam, tuque dolebas et capellae  
balabant et caper eas terebrabat.*

LACON

*Utinam ne ista paedicatione, gibber, profundius  
sepeliaris!*    But a truce, man; hither, come thou  
hither, and thou shalt sing thy country-song for the  
last time

COMATAS

Thither will I never come    Here I have oaks and  
bedstraw, and bees humming bravely at the hives,  
here's two springs of cool water to thy one, and  
birds, not locusts, a-babbling upon the tree, and, for  
shade, thine's not half so good, and what's more the  
pine overhead is casting her nuts.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΛΑΚΩΝ

ἦ μὰν ἀρνακίδας τε καὶ εἴρια τείδε πατησεῖς,  
αἰκ' ἔνθης, ὕπνω μαλακώτερα· ταὶ δὲ τραγεῖαι  
ταὶ παρὰ τὴν ὄσδοντι κακώτερον ἢ τὴν περ ὄσδει.  
στασῶ δὲ κρατῆρα μέγαν λευκοῖο γάλακτος  
ταῖς Νύμφαις, στασῶ δὲ καὶ ἰδέος ἄλλον ἐλαίω.

**KOMATAS**

αἰ δέ κε καὶ τὸ μόλῃς, ἀπαλὰν πτέριν ὧδε πατησεῖς  
καὶ γλάχων' ἀνθεύσαν· ὑπεσσεῖται δὲ χιμαιρᾶν  
δέρματα τῶν παρὰ τὴν μαλακώτερα τετράκις  
ἀρονῶν.

στασῶ δ' ὀκτὼ μὲν γαυλῶς τῷ Πανὶ γάλακτος,  
ὀκτὼ δὲ σκαφίδας μέλιτος πλέα κηρὶ ἐχοίσας.

ΛΑΚΩΝ

αὐτόθι μοι ποτέρισδε καὶ αὐτόθι βουκολιάσδεν·  
τὰν σαντῶ πατέων ἔχε τὰς δρύας. ἀλλὰ τίς ἄμμε,  
τίς κρινεῖ; αἰθ' ἔνθου ποχ' ὁ βουκόλος ᾧδ' ὁ  
Λυκώπας.

**KOMATAS**

οὐδὲν ἐγὼ τήνῳ ποτιδεύομαι· ἀλλὰ τὸν ἄνδρα,  
αἱ λῆς, τὸν δρυτόμον βωστρήσομες, ὃς τὰς ἐρείκας  
τήνας τὰς παρὰ τὴν ξυλοχίζεται· ἔστι δὲ Μόρσων.

ΛΑΚΩΝ

βωστρέωμες.

**KOMATAS**

τὸ κάλει νιν.

ΔΑΚΩΝ

ὡς ξένη μικρὸν ἀκουσον  
 τεῖδ' ἐνθών· ἄμμες γὰρ ἐρίσδομες, ὅστις ἀρείων  
 βουκολιαστάς ἐστι. τὸ δ' ὠγαθὲ μήτ' ἐμὲ Μόρσων  
 ἐν χάριτι κρίνης, μήτ' ὦν τύγα τοῦτου ὀνάσης.

## THEOCRITUS V, 50-69

LACON

An you'll come here, I'll lay you shall tread  
lambskins and sheep's wool as soft as sleep Those  
buckgoat-pelts of thine smell e'en ranker than thou  
And I'll set up a great bowl of whitest milk to  
the Nymphs, and eke I'll set up another of  
sweetest oil.

COMATAS

If come you do, you shall tread here taper fern  
and organy all a-blowing, and for your lying down  
there's she-goat-skins four times as soft as those  
lambskins of thine. And I'll set up to Pan eight  
pails of milk and eke eight pots of full honey-  
combs.

LACON

Go to ; be where you will for me for the match o'  
country-song. Go your own gate ; you're welcome  
to your oaks. But who's to be our judge, say who ?  
Would God neatheid Lycopas might come this way  
along

COMATAS

I suffer no want of him We'll holla rather, an't  
please ye, on yon woodcutter that is after fuel in  
the heather near where you be Moison it is.

LACON

We will.

COMATAS

Call him, you.

LACON

Ho, friend ! hither and lend us your ears awhile.  
We two have a match toward, to see who's the  
better man at a country-song (*MORSON approaches*)  
Be you fair, good Morson, neither judge me out of  
favour nor yet be too kind to him.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ναὶ ποτὶ τᾶν Νυμφᾶν Μόρσων φίλε μήτε Κομάτα 70  
τὸ πλέον εὐθύνης, μήτ' ὦν τύγα τῷδε χαρίξῃ.  
ἄδε τοι ἅ ποίμνα τῷ Θουρίῳ ἐστὶ Σιβύρτα. 72

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

μή τύ τις ἡρώτη ποττῷ Διός, αἵτε Σιβύρτα 74  
αἵτ' ἐμόν ἐστι κάκιστε τὸ ποίμνιον; ὥς λάλος ἐσσί.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

βέντισθ' οὗτος, ἐγὼ μὲν ἀλαθέα πάντ' ἀγορεύω  
κουδὲν καυχῶμαι· τὸ δ' ἄγαν φιλοκέρτομος ἐσσί.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

εἶα λέγ', εἴ τι λέγεις, καὶ τὸν ξένον ἐς πόλιν  
αὐθις  
ζῶντ' ἄφες· ὦ Παιάν, ἦ στωμύλος ἦσθα Κομάτα.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

Ταὶ Μοῖσαι με φιλεῦντι πολὺ πλέον ἢ τὸν ἀοιδὸν 80  
Δάφνιν· ἐγὼ δ' αὐταῖς χιμάρως δύο πρᾶν ποκ'  
ἔθυσσα.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

καὶ γὰρ ἔμ' Ὀπόλλων φιλέει μέγα, καὶ καλὸν  
αὐτῷ  
κρίδον ἐγὼ βόσκω. τὰ δὲ Κάρνεα καὶ δὴ ἐφέρπει.

73 Εὐμάρα δὲ τὰς αἴγας ὀρῆς φίλε τῷ Συβαρίτα. Wil  
rightly omits

## THEOCRITUS V, 70-83

COMATAS

'Fore the Nymphs, sweet Morson, pray you  
neither rule unto Comatas more than his due nor yet  
give your favour to Lacon. This flock o' sheep, look  
you, is Sibyrtas' of Thuri.

LACON

Zeus' and who asked thee, foul knave, whether  
the flock was mine or Sibyrtas'? Lord, what a  
babbler is here !

COMATAS

Most excellent blockhead, all I say, I, is true,  
though for my part, I'm no braggart; but Lord !  
what a railer is here !

LACON

Come, come; say thy say and be done, and let's  
suffer friend Morson to come off with his life  
Apollo save us, Comatas ! thou hast the gift o'  
the gab

*(The Singing Match)*

COMATAS

The Muses bear me greater love than Daphnis ere  
did see ;  
And well they may, for t'other day they had two  
goats of me.

LACON

But Apollo loves me all as well, and an offering too  
have I,  
A fine fat ram a-batt'ning; for Apollo's feast draws  
nigh

"Foul knave". Comatas' apparently innocent remark  
implies the taunt of slavery, cf. ll 5 and 8. "Daphnis"  
the Greek has ' the poet Daphnis "

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

πλὰν δύο τὰς λοιπὰς διδυματόκος αἶγας ἀμέλγω,  
καί μ' ἡ παῖς ποθορεῦσα 'ταῖλαν' λέγει 'αὐτὸς  
ἀμέλγεις;'

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

φεῦ φεῦ· Λάκων τοι ταλάρως σχεδὸν εἵκατι πληροῖ  
τυρῶ καὶ τὸν ἄναβον ἐν ἄνθεσι παῖδα μολύνει.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

βάλλει καὶ μάλοισι τὸν αἰπόλον ἡ Κλεαρίστα  
τὰς αἶγας παρελῶντα καὶ ἀδύ τι ποππυλιάσδει.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

κῆμὲ γὰρ ὁ Κρατίδας τὸν ποιμένα λείος ὑπαντῶν 90  
ἐκμαίνει· λιπαρὰ δὲ παρ' αὐχένα σείετ' ἔθειρα.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἀλλ' οὐ σύμβλητ' ἐστὶ κυνόσβατος οὐδ' ἀνεμώννα  
πρὸς ῥόδα, τῶν ἄνδηρα παρ' αἵμασιαῖσι πεφύκει.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδ' ἀκύλοις ὀρομαλίδες· αἱ μὲν ἔχοντι  
λεπτὸν<sup>1</sup> ἀπὸ πρίνοιο λεπύριον, αἱ δὲ μελιχραί.

<sup>1</sup> λεπτόν of taste

## THEOCRITUS V, 84-95

COMATAS

Nigh all my goats have twins at teat; there's only  
two with one,  
And the damsel sees and the damsel says 'Poor lad,  
dost milk alone?'

LACON

O tale of woe! here's Lacon, though, fills cheese-  
racks well-nigh twenty  
And lies, good hap! in his leman's lap mid flowers  
that blow so plenty

COMATAS

But when her goatherd boy goes by you should see  
my Clearist  
Fling apples, and her pretty lips call pouting to be  
kissed.

LACON

But madness 'tis for the shepherd to meet the  
shepherd's love,  
So brown and bright are the tresses light that toss  
that shoulder above

COMATAS

Ah! but there's no comparing windflower with rose  
at all,  
Nor wild dog-rose with her that blows beside the  
trim orchard's wall.

LACON

There's no better likeness, neither, 'twixt fruit of  
pear and holm,  
The acorn savours flat and stale, the pear's like  
honeycomb.

"Pear" in the Greek, a sweet kind of wild apple



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

κήγῳ μὲν δωσῶ τᾷ παρθένῳ αὐτίκα φάσσαν  
ἐκ τᾷς ἀρκεύθῳ καθελῶν· τηνεὶ γὰρ ἐφίσδει.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ἐς χλαῖναν μαλακὸν πόκον, ὅπποκα πέξω  
τὰν οἶν τὰν πέλλαν, Κρατίδα δωρήσομαι αὐτός.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

σίττ' ἀπὸ τᾷς κοτίνῳ ταὶ μηκάδες· ὦδε νέμεσθε,  
ὥς τὸ κάταντες τοῦτο γεώλοφον αἶ τε μυρίκαι.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

οὐκ ἀπὸ τᾷς δρυὸς οὔτος ὁ Κώναρος ἄ τε Κιναίθα;  
τουτέῃ βοσκησεῖσθε ποτ' ἀντολάς,<sup>1</sup> ὥς ὁ Φάλαρος.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἔστι δέ μοι γαυλὸς κυπαρίσσινος, ἔστι δὲ κρατήρ,  
ἔργον Πραξιτέλεως· τᾷ παιδὶ δὲ ταῦτα φυλάσσω.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

χάμιν ἔστι κύων φιλοποίμνιος, ὃς λύκος ἄγχει,  
ὃν τῷ παιδὶ δίδωμι τὰ θηρία πάντα διώκειν.

<sup>1</sup> ποτ' ἀντολάς "uphill" E, cf 4 44 and ἀνατέλλω Ap Rhod 2 1247 others "towards the east"

## THEOCRITUS V, 96-107

COMATAS

In yonder jumpei-thucket a cushat sits on her  
nest ;  
I'll go this day and fetch her away for the maiden I  
love best

LACON

So soon as e'er my sheep I shear, a rare fine gift I'll  
take ,  
I'll give yon black ewe's pretty coat my darling's  
cloak to make

COMATAS

Hey, bleaters ! away from the olive ; where would  
be grazing then ?  
Your pasture's where the tamarisk grows and the  
slope hill drops to the glen

LACON

Where are ye browsing, Crumple ? and, Browning,  
where are ye ?  
Graze up the hill as Piebald will, and let the oak-  
leaves be.

COMATAS

I've laid up a piggin of cypress-wood and a bowl for  
mixing wine,  
The work of great Praxiteles, both for that lass of  
mine.

LACON

And I, I have a flock-dog, a wolver of good fame,  
Shall go a gift to my dearest and hunt him all  
manner of game.

“Great Praxiteles” : not the sculptor

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἀκρίδες, αἰ τὸν φραγμὸν ὑπερπαδήτε τὸν ἄμῶν,  
μή μεν λωβάσησθε τὰς ἀμπέλους· ἐντὶ γὰρ ἄβαι.<sup>1</sup>

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

τοὶ τέττιγες ὀρήτε, τὸν αἰπόλον ὥς ἐρεθίζω·  
οὕτως κῦμμες θην ἐρεθίζετε τὼς καλαμευτάς.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

μισέω τὰς δασυκέρκος ἀλώπεκας, αἰ τὰ Μίκωνος  
αἰεὶ φοιτῶσαι τὰ ποθέσπερα ραγίζοντι.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ μισέω τὼς κανθάρος, οἱ τὰ Φιλώνδα  
σῦκα κατατρῶγοντες ὑπανέμιοι φορέονται.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἦ οὐ μέμνασ', ὅκ' ἐγὼ τυ κατήλασα, καὶ τὸν σεσαρώς  
εὖ ποτεκινγκλίζευ καὶ τᾶς δρυὸς εἶχεο τήνας,

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

τοῦτο μὲν οὐ μέμναμ'. ὅκα μάν τοι<sup>2</sup> τεῖδέ τυ δήσας  
Εὐμάρης ἐκάθαρε, καλῶς μάλα τοῦτό γ' ἴσαμι.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ἤδη τις Μόρσων πικραίνεται· ἦ οὐχὶ παράσθεν;  
σκίλλας ἰὼν γραίας ἀπὸ σάματος αὐτίκα τίλλειν.

<sup>1</sup> ἦβαι mss αἶβαι, ἔβαι, ἄβαι, schol αἶβαι, ἔβαι, αὐταί. probably special name of a choice sort of vine, cf Hesych ἦβη ἄμπελος. some take it as "youths," i.e. young vines  
<sup>2</sup> μάν τοι Wil mss μάν ποκ or μάν

## THEOCRITUS V, 108-121

COMATAS

Avaunt, avaunt, ye locusts o'er master's fence that  
spring,  
These be none of your common vines; have done  
your ravaging

LACON

See, crickets, see how vexed he be ' see master  
Goatherd boiling '  
'Tis even so you vex, I trow, the reapers at their  
toiling

COMATAS

I hate the brush-tail foxes, that soon as day declines  
Come creeping to their vintaging mid goodman  
Micon's vines

LACON

So too I hate the beetles come riding on the breeze,  
Guttle Philondas' choicest figs, and off as quick as  
you please.

COMATAS

Num oblitus es tum, cum ego te percutiebam,  
quam pulchre mihi tu tuam caudam iactaveris ringens  
et quercui illi adhaerens ?

LACON

Istud quidem non ego meminī; at tum, cum hic te  
Eumaras alligatum depectebat, quid acciderit probe  
scio.

COMATAS

Somebody's waxing wild, Morson; see you not what  
is plain ?  
Go pluck him squalls from an oldwife's grave to cool  
his heated brain.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

κῆγ' ὡς μὲν κνίζω Μόρσων τινά· καὶ τὸ δὲ λεύσσεις.  
ἐνθὼν τὰν κυκλάμινον ὄρουσέ νυν ἐς τὸν Ἀλευτα.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

Ἰμέρα ἀνθ' ὕδατος ρείτω γάλα, καὶ τὸ δὲ Κρᾶθι  
οἴνῳ πορφύροις, τὰ δέ τοι σία καρπὸν ἐνείκει.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

ρείτω χαῖ Συβαρίτις ἐμὴν μέλι, καὶ τὸ πότορθρον  
ἀ παῖς ἀνθ' ὕδατος τᾷ καλπίδι κηρία βάψαι.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

ταῖ μὲν ἐμαὶ κύτισόν τε καὶ αἰγίλον αἰγες ἔδουντι,  
καὶ σχῖνον πατέοντι καὶ ἐν κομάροισι κέονται.

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

ταῖσι δ' ἐμαῖς ὅτεσσι πάρεστι μὲν ἄ-μελίτεια  
φέρβεσθαι, πολλὸς δὲ καὶ ὥς ῥόδα κίσθος ἐπανθεῖ.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

οὐκ ἔραμ' Ἀλκίππας, ὅτι με πρᾶν οὐκ ἐφίλησε  
τῶν ὥτων καθελοῖς, ὅκα οἱ τὰν φάσσαν ἔδωκα.

## THEOCRITUS V, 122-133

LACON

Nay, I be nettling somebody, what needs it you to tell?

Be off to Haleis' bank, Morson, and dig him an earth-apple

COMATAS

Let Himera's stream run white with cream, and Crathis, as for thine,

Mid apple-bearing beds of reed may it run red with wine.

LACON

Let Sybaris' well spring honey for me, and ere the sun is up

May the wench that goes for water draw honeycombs for my cup

COMATAS

My goats eat goat-grass, mine, and browse upon the clover,

Tread mastich green and lie between the arbutus waving over.

LACON

It may be so, but I'd have ye know these pretty sheep of mine

Browse rock-roses in plenty and sweet as eglantine.

COMATAS

When I brought the cushat 'tother night 'tis true Alcippa kissed me,

But alack! she forgot to kiss by the pot, and since, poor wench, she's missed me.

“Kiss by the pot”. to kiss taking hold of both ears

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΛΑΚΩΝ

ἀλλ' ἐγὼ Εὐμήδους ἔραμαι μέγα· καὶ γὰρ ὅκ'  
αὐτῷ  
τὰν σύριγγ' ὥρεξα, καλὸν τί με κάρτ' ἐφίλησεν.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

οὐ θεμιτὸν Λάκων ποτ' ἀηδόνα κίσσας ἐρίσδειν,  
οὐδ' ἔποπας κύκνοισι· τὸ δ' ὦ τάλαν ἐσσὶ  
φιλεχθής.

### ΜΟΡΣΩΝ

παύσασθαι κέλομαι τὸν ποιμένα. τὴν δὲ Κομᾶτα  
δωρεῖται Μόρσων τὰν ἀμνίδα· καὶ τὴν δὲ θύσας  
ταῖς Νύμφαις Μόρσωνι καλὸν κρέας αὐτίκα  
πέμψον.

1.

### ΚΟΜΑΤΑΣ

πεμφῶ ναὶ τὸν Πᾶνα. φριμάσσεο πᾶσα τραγίσκων  
νῦν ἀγέλα· κήγων γὰρ ἴδ' ὡς μέγα τοῦτο καχάσδω<sup>1</sup>  
καττῶ Λάκωνος τῷ ποιμένος, ὅττι ποκ' ἤδη  
ἀνυσάμαν τὰν ἀμνόν· ἐς ὠρανὸν ὕμνιν ἀλεύμαι.  
αἰγες ἐμαὶ θαρσεῖτε κερούτιδες<sup>2</sup>· αὔριον ὕμμε  
πάσας ἐγὼ λουσῶ Συβαρίτιδος ἔνδοθι λίμνας.  
οὗτος ὁ λευκίτας ὁ κορυπτίλος, εἴ τιν' ὀχευσεῖς  
τὰν αἰγῶν, φλασσῶ τυ, πρὶν ἢ ἐμὲ καλλιερῆσαι  
ταῖς Νύμφαις τὰν ἀμνόν. ὃ δ' αὖ πάλιν. ἀλλὰ  
γενοίμαν,  
αἰ μὴ τυ φλάσσαιμι, Μελάνθιος ἀντὶ Κομάτα.

11

<sup>1</sup> καχάσδω E, cf 2 153, 23 46 mss καχαξῶ <sup>2</sup> κερού-  
τιδες Ahrens mss κερουχίδες, schol also κερουλίδες, κερουλ-  
κίδες

## THEOCRITUS V, 134-150

LACON

When fair Eumédes took the pipe that was his  
lover's token

He kissed him sweet as sweet could be; his lover's  
love's unbroken.

COMATAS

'Tis nature's law that no jackdaw with nightingale  
shall bicker,

Nor owl with swan, but poor Lacón was born a  
quarrel-picker

MORSON

I bid the shepherd cease    You, Comatas, may  
take the lamb, and when you offer her to the  
Nymphs be sure you presently send poor Morson a  
well-laden platter.

COMATAS

That will I, 'fore Pan.    Come, snort ye, my merry  
buck-goats all    Look you how great a laugh I have  
of shepherd Lacon for that I have at last achieved  
the lamb    Troth, I'll caper you to the welkin.  
Good she-goats mine, frisk it and be merry; to-  
morrow I'll wash you one and all in Sybaris lake.  
What, Whitecoat, thou wanton! if thou leave not  
meddling with the she's, before ever I sacrifice the  
lamb to the Nymphs I'll break every bone in thy  
body    Lo there! he's at it agam    If I break thee  
not, be my last end the end of Melanthius

"owl" the Greek has "hoopoe"    "Melanthius":  
the goatherd mutilated by Odysseus and Telemachus in the  
twenty-second book of the *Odyssey*.





## VI.—ΒΟΥΚΟΛΙΑΣΤΑΙ

Δαμοίτας χὼ Δάφνις ὁ βουκόλος εἰς ἓνα χῶρον  
τὰν ἀγέλαν πόκ', Ἄρατε, συνάγαγον· ἧς δ' ὁ μὲν  
αὐτῶν

πυρρός, ὁ δ' ἡμιγένειος· ἐπὶ κράναν δέ τιν' ἄμφω  
ἐσδόμενοι θέρεος μέσῳ ἄματι τοιάδ' αἶδον.  
πρᾶτος δ' ἄρξατο Δάφνις, ἐπεὶ καὶ πρᾶτος ἔρισδε·

Βάλλει τοι Πολύφαμε τὸ ποίμνιον ἡ Γαλάτεια  
μάλοισιν, δυσέρωτα τὸν αἰπόλον ἄνδρα καλεῖσα·  
καὶ τύ νιν οὐ ποθόρησθα τάλαν τάλαν<sup>1</sup>, ἀλλὰ  
κάθησαι

ἀδέα συρίσδων. πάλιν ἄδ' ἶδε τὰν κύνα βάλλει,  
ἃ τοι τὰν οἴων ἔπεται σκοπός· ἃ δὲ βαύσδει 10  
εἰς ἄλλα δερκομένα, τὰ δέ νιν καλὰ κύματα  
φαίνει<sup>2</sup>

ἄσυχα καχλάζοντος ἐπ' αἰγιαλοῖο θεοῖσαν.  
φράζεο μὴ τὰς παιδὸς ἐπὶ κνάμαισιν ὀρούσῃ  
ἐξ ἁλὸς ἐρχομένας, κατὰ δὲ χροά καλὸν ἀμύξῃ.  
ἃ δὲ καὶ αὐτόθε τοι διαθρύπτεται· ὥς ἀπ' ἀκάνθας  
ταὶ καπυραὶ χαῖται, τὸ καλὸν θέρος ἀνίκα  
φρύγει,

καὶ φεύγει φιλέοντα καὶ οὐ φιλέοντα διώκει,

<sup>1</sup> τάλαν E accus. neut cf Men. Ep. 217 · others voc. masc

<sup>2</sup> φαίνει · schol also φαίνει

## VI.—A COUNTRY SINGING-MATCH

Damoetas and neatherd Daphnis, Aratus, half-bearded the one, the other's chin ruddy with the down, had driven each his herd together to a single spot at noon of a summer's day, and sitting them down side by side at a water-spring began to sing. Daphnis sang first, for from him came the challenge :

See, Cyclops ! Galatée's at thy flock with apples,  
see !  
The apples fly, and she doth cry ' A fool's-in-love  
are ye ' ;  
But with never a look to the maid, poor heart, thou  
sit'st and pipest so fine.  
Lo yonder again she flings them amain at that  
good flock-dog o' thine !  
See how he looks to seaward and bays her from the  
land !  
See how he's glassed where he runs so fast i' the  
pretty wee waves o' the strand !  
Beware or he'll leap as she comes from the deep,  
leap on her legs so bonny,  
And towse her sweet pretty flesh—But lo where  
e'en now she wantons upon ye !  
O the high thistle-down and the dry thistle-down i'  
the heat o' the pretty summer O !—  
She'll fly ye and deny ye if ye'll a-wooning go,

“ Apples ” : a love-gift, cf 2 120, 3. 10. “ glassed ” :  
there is an ancient variant “ splashed.”

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ τὸν ἀπὸ γραμμᾶς κινεῖ λίθον· ἥ γὰρ ἔρωτι  
πολλάκις ὦ Πολύφαμε τὰ μὴ καλὰ καλα  
πέφανται.

τῷ δ' ἐπὶ Δαμοίτας ἀνεβάλλετο καὶ τὰδ' αἶδεν·

Εἶδον ναὶ τὸν Πᾶνα, τὸ ποίμνιον ἀνίκ' ἔβαλλε,  
κοῦ μ' ἔλαθ', οὐ τὸν ἐμὸν τὸν ἕνα γλυκύν, ᾧ  
ποθορῶμι

ἐς τέλος, αὐτὰρ ὁ μάντις ὁ Τήλεμος ἔχθρ' ἀγορεύων  
ἐχθρὰ φέροι ποτὶ οἶκον, ὅπως τεκέεσσι φυλάσσοι.  
ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐγὼ κνίζων πάλιν οὐ ποθόρημι,  
ἀλλ' ἄλλαν τινὰ φάμι γυναικ' ἔχεν· ἃ δ' αἰόισα  
ζαλοῖ μ' ὦ Παιὰν καὶ τάκεται, ἐκ δὲ θαλάσσης  
οἰστρεῖ παπταίνουσα ποτ' ἄντρα τε καὶ ποτὶ  
ποίμνας.

σίξα<sup>1</sup> δ' ὕλακτεῖν νιν καὶ τᾷ κυνί· καὶ γὰρ ὅκ' ἦρων  
αὐτᾶς, ἐκνυζήτο ποτ' ἰσχία ῥύγχος ἔχουσα.

ταῦτα δ' ἴσως ἐσορώσα ποεύντά με πολλάκι,  
πεμφεῖ

ἄγγελον. αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κλαξῶ θύρας, ἔστε κ' ὁμόσση  
αὐτά μοι στορεσεῖν καλὰ δέμνια τᾶσδ' ἐπὶ νύσῳ.

<sup>1</sup> σίξα Ruhnken mss σίγα, σῖγα, σιγα̃, σιγα

## THEOCRITUS VI, 18-33

But cease to woo and she'll pursue, aye, then the  
king's the move ;  
For oft the foul, good Polypheme, is fair i' the eyes  
of love

Then Damoetas in answer lifted up his voice,  
singing :

I saw, I saw her fling them, Lord Pan my witness  
be ;  
I was not blind, I vow, by this my one sweet—this  
Wherewith Heav'n send I see to the end, and  
Telemus when he  
Foretells me woe, then be it so, but woe for him  
and his !— ;  
'Tis tit for tat, to tease her on I look not on the jade  
And say there's other wives to wed, and lo ! she's  
jealous made,  
Jealous for me, Lord save us ' and 'gins to pine for  
me  
And glowers from the deep on the cave and the  
sheep like a want-wit lass o' the sea  
And the dog that bayed, I hissed him on ; for when  
'twas I to woo  
He'd lay his snout to her lap, her lap, and whine  
her friendly to  
Maybe she'll send me messages if long I go this  
gate ;  
But I'll bar the doo'r till she swear o' this shore to  
be my wedded mate.

“ The king ’ moved as a last resource in some game like  
draughts or backgammon “ Telemus ’ prophesied the  
blinding of Polyphemus by Odysseus

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ γάρ θην οὐδ' εἶδος ἔχων κακόν, ὥς με λέγοντι.  
ἦ γὰρ πρᾶν ἐς πόντον ἐσέβλεπον, ἧς δὲ γαλάνα,  
καὶ καλὰ μὲν τὰ γένεια, καλὰ δέ μευ ἅ μία κώρα,  
ὥς παρ' ἐμὴν κέκριται, κατεφαίνετο, τῶν δέ τ'  
ὀδόντων

λευκοτέρα αὐγὰ<sup>1</sup> Παρίας ὑπέχαινε<sup>2</sup> λίθοιο.  
ὥς μὴ βασκανθῶ δέ, τρὶς εἰς ἐμὸν ἔπτυσσα κόλπον·  
ταῦτα γὰρ ἅ γραία με Κοτυτταρὶς ἐξεδίδαξε.

τόσσ' εἰπὼν τὸν Δάφνιν ὁ Δαμοίτας ἐφίλησε,  
χῶ μὲν τῷ σύριγγ' ὁ δὲ τῷ καλὸν αὐλὸν ἔδωκεν.  
αὐλεῖ Δαμοίτας, σύρισδε δὲ Δάφνις ὁ βούτας·  
ὠρχεῦντ' ἐν μαλακᾷ ταὶ πόρτιες αὐτίκα ποίᾳ.  
νίκη μὰν οὐδ' ἄλλος, ἀνήσασται δ' ἐγένοντο.

<sup>1</sup> λευκοτέρα αὐγὰ Meineke, cf. e.g. 2.152, 10. 30, 11. 12  
mss λευκοτέραν αὐγάν <sup>2</sup> ὑπέχαινε E mss ὑπέφαινε from  
κατεφαίνετο above

41 δ πρᾶν ἀμάντεσι παρ' Ἰπποκλῶνι ποταύλει Not in the  
best ms, after 42 in another

THEOCRITUS VI, 34-46

Ill-favoured? nay, for all they say; I have looked i'  
the glassy sea,  
And, for aught I could spy, both beard and eye  
were pretty as well could be,  
And the teeth all a-row like marble below,—and  
that none should o'erlook me of it,  
As Goody Cotyttaris taught me, thence in my breast  
I spit

So far Damoetas, and kissed Daphnis, and that to  
this gave a pipe and this to that a pretty flute.  
Then lo' the piper was neatherd Daphnis and the  
flute-player Damoetas, and the dancers were the  
heifers who forthwith began to bound mid the  
tender grass. And as for the victory, that fell to  
neither one, being they both stood unvanquished in  
the match

“And the teeth all a-row” the Greek has “of my teeth  
below, the sheen gaped whiter than marble” “O'erlook  
me” to see one's reflexion made one liable to the effects of  
the evil eye; spitting averted this





## VII —THE HARVEST-HOME

THE poet tells in the first person how three friends went out from Cos to join in a harvest-home at a farm in the country. On the way they overtake a Cretan goatherd named Lycidas, and the conversation leads to a friendly singing-match between him and the narrator Simichidas. Lycidas' song, which was apparently composed the previous November, is primarily a song of good wishes for the safe passage of his beloved Ageanax to Mitylenè, but the greater part of it is concerned with the merrymaking which will celebrate his safe arrival, and includes an address to the mythical goatherd-poet Comatas, whose story is to be sung by Tityrus on the festive occasion. Simichidas replies with a prayer to Pan and the Loves to bring the fair Philinus to his lover Aratus, a prayer which passes, however, into an appeal to Aratus to cease such youthful follies. Lycidas now bestows the crook which he had laughingly offered as a stake, and leaves the three friends at the entrance to the farm. The rest of the poem is a description of the feast. The scholia preserve a tradition that Simichidas is Theocritus himself, and indeed there is great probability that we are dealing throughout the poem with real persons. A discussion of this question will be found in the Introduction.

## VII.—ΘΑΛΤΣΙΑ

Ἦς χρόνος ἀνὶκ' ἐγὼ τε καὶ Εὐκρίτος εἰς τὸν  
 Ἀλευτα

εἵρπομες ἐκ πόλιος, σὺν καὶ τρίτος ἄμμιν Ἀμύντας.  
 τᾷ Δηοῖ γὰρ ἔτευχε θαλύσια καὶ Φρασίδαμος  
 κ' Ἀντιγένης, δύο τέκνα Λυκώπεος, εἴ τί περ ἐσθλὸν  
 χαῶν τῶν ἐπάνωθεν<sup>1</sup> ἀπὸ Κλυτίας τε καὶ αὐτῷ  
 Χάλκωνος, Βούριναν δς ἐκ ποδὸς ἄννε κράναν  
 εὐ<sup>2</sup> ἐνερεισάμενος πέτρα γόνυ, ταὶ δὲ παρ' αὐτὰν  
 αἵγειροι πετελαί τε εὐσκιον ἄλσος ὕφαινον<sup>3</sup>  
 χλωροῖσιν πετάλοισι κατηρεφέες κομώσσαι.  
 κοῦπω τὰν μεσάταν ὁδὸν ἄννμες, οὐδὲ τὸ σᾶμα 10  
 ἄμιν τὸ Βρασίλα κατεφαίνετο, καὶ τιν' ὀδίταν  
 ἐσθλὸν σὺν Μοίσαισι Κυδωνικὸν εὐρομες ἄνδρα,  
 οὔνομα μὲν Λυκίδαν, ἧς δ' αἰπόλος, οὐδέ κέ τίς νιν  
 ἡγνοίησεν ἰδὼν, ἐπεὶ αἰπόλῳ ἔξοχ' ἔφκει.  
 ἐκ μὲν γὰρ λασίοιο δασύτριχος εἶχε τράγοιο  
 κνακὸν δέρμ' ὥμοισι νέας ταμίσοιο ποτόσδον,  
 ἀμφὶ δέ οἱ στήθεσσι γέρων ἐσφίγγετο πέπλος  
 ζωστήρῃ πλακερῷ<sup>4</sup>, ροικὰν δ' ἔχεν ἀγριελαῖω  
 δεξιτερᾷ κορύναν. καὶ μ' ἀτρέμας εἶπε σεσαρώς  
 ὀμματι μειδιόωντι, γέλως δέ οἱ εἶχετο χείλεως· 20  
 'Σιμιχίδα, πᾶ δὴ τὸ μεσαμέριον πόδας ἔλκεις,

<sup>1</sup> ἐπάνωθεν Reiske, cf *Er* 22 3 mss ἔτ' ἄνωθεν <sup>2</sup> εὐ  
 Hermann · mss εὐ γ' <sup>3</sup> ὕφαινον Heinsius from Verg.  
*Er*l. 9. 42 mss ἔφαινον <sup>4</sup> Schol. also πλοκέρω

## VII.—THE HARVEST-HOME

Once upon a time went Eucritus and I, and for a third, Amyntas, from the town to the Haleis 'Twas to a harvest-feast holden that day unto Deo by Phrasi-damus and Antigenes the two sons of Lycopus, sons to wit of a fine piece of the good old stuff that came of Clytia, of Clytia and of that very Chalcon whose sturdy knee planted once against the rock both made Burina fount to gush forth at his feet and caused elm and aspen to weave above it a waving canopy of green leaves and about it a precinct of shade Ere we were halfway thither, ere we saw the tomb of Brasila, by grace of the Muses we overtook a fine fellow of Cydonia, by name Lycidas and by profession a goatheid, which indeed any that saw him must have known him for, seeing liker could not be For upon his shoulders there hung, rank of new rennet, a shag-haired buck-goat's tawny fleece, across his breast a broad belt did gird an ancient shirt, and in's hand he held a crook of wild olive Gently, broadly, and with a twinkling eye he smiled upon me, and with laughter possessing his lip, "What, Simichidas," says he; "whither away this sultry

"Deo" Demeter "Clytia and Chalcon" legendary queen and king of Cos "Burina" the fountain still bears this name.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἀνίκα δὴ καὶ σαῦρος ἐν αἵμασιαῖσι καθεύδει,  
οὐδ' ἐπιτυμβίδιαι κορυδαλλίδες ἡλαίνονται;  
ἢ μετὰ δαῖτα κλητὸς ἐπέιγεται; ἢ τινος ἀστῶν  
λανὸν ἐπι θρώσκες; ὥς τευ ποσὶ νισσομένοιο  
πᾶσα λίθος πταίοισα ποτ' ἀρβυλίδεσσιν αἶδει.'

τὸν δ' ἐγὼ ἀμείφθην ' Λυκίδα φίλε, φαντί τυ  
πάντες

ἦμεν συρικτὰν μέγ' ὑπείροχον ἔν τε νομεῦσιν  
ἔν τ' ἀματήρεσσι. τὸ δὴ μάλα θυμὸν λαίνει  
ἀμέτερον· καίτοι κατ' ἐμὸν νόον ἰσοφαρίζειν 30  
ἔλπομαι. ἃ δ' ὁδὸς ἄδε θαλύσιάδ<sup>1</sup>. ἢ γὰρ ἐταῖροι  
ἀνέρες εὐπέπλω Δαμάτερι δαῖτα τελευτῇ  
ὄλβω ἀπαρχόμενοι· μάλα γὰρ σφισι πίονι μέτρῳ  
ἃ δαίμων εὐκριθὼν ἀνεπλήρωσεν ἀλῶν.  
ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ, ξυνὰ γὰρ ὁδὸς ξυνὰ δὲ καὶ ἰώ,   
βουκολιασδώμεσθα· τάχ' ὥτερος ἄλλον ὄνασεί.  
καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ Μοισᾶν καπυρὸν στόμα, κῆμὲ λέγουσι  
πάντες ἀοιδὸν ἄριστον· ἐγὼ δέ τις οὐ ταχυπειθής,  
οὐ Δᾶν· οὐ γὰρ πῶ κατ' ἐμὸν νόον οὔτε τὸν ἐσθλὸν  
Σικελίδαν νίκημι τὸν ἐκ Σάμῳ οὔτε Φιλίταν<sup>2</sup> 40  
αἶδων, βάτραχος δὲ ποτ' ἀκρίδας ὥς τις ἐρίσδω.'

ὥς ἐφάμαν ἐπίταδες· ὁ δ' αἰπόλος ἀδὺν γελάσας  
' τάν τοι ' ἔφα ' κορύναν δωρύττομαι, οὐνεκεν ἐσσι  
πᾶν ἐπ' ἀλαθείᾳ πεπλασμένον ἐκ Διὸς ἔρνος.  
ὥς μοι καὶ τέκτων μέγ' ἀπέχθεται, ὅστις ἐρευνῇ  
ἴσον ὄρευσ κορυφᾷ τελέσαι δόμον Ὀρομέδοντος<sup>3</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> θαλύσιάδ(ε) E· mss θαλυσιὰς <sup>2</sup> Φιλίταν Clonert mss  
φιλίταν <sup>3</sup> Schol also εὐρυμέδοντος

## THEOCRITUS VII, 22-46

noontide, when e'en the lizard will be sleeping i' th' hedge and the crested larks go not afield? Is 't even a dinner you be bidden to or a fellow-townsmen's vintage-rout that makes you scurry so? for 'faith, every stone i' the road strikes singing against your hastening brogues "

" 'Tis said, dear Lycidas," answered I, "you beat all comers, herdsman or harvester, at the pipe. So 'tis said, and right glad am I it should be said; howbeit to my thinking I'm as good a man as you. This our journey is to a harvest-home; some friends of ours make holyday to the fair-robed Demeter with first-fruits of their increase, because the Goddess hath filled their threshing-floor in measure so full and fat. So come, I pray you, since the way and the day be yours as well as ours, and let you and me make country-music. And each from the other may well take some profit, seeing I, like you, am a clear-voiced mouthpiece of the Muses, and, like you, am accounted best of musicians everywhere,—albeit I am not so quick, Zeus knows, to believe what I'm told, being to my thinking no match in music yet awhile for the excellent Sicelidas of Samos nor again for Philtas, but I am even as a frog that is fain to outvie the pretty crickets "

So said I of set purpose, and master Goatherd with a merry laugh "I offer you this crook," says he, "as to a spig of great Zeus that is made to the pattern of truth. Even as I hate your mason who will be striving to rear his house high as the peak of Mount Oromedon, so hate I likewise you

"The pipe" • here it implies music generally  
 of great Zeus" Truth was daughter of Zeus  
 is probably the highest mountain in Cos

"Sprig  
 Oromedon

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ Μοισᾶν ὄρνιχες, ὅσοι ποτὶ Χίον ἀηδῶ<sup>1</sup>  
 ἀντία κοκκύζοντες ἐτώσια μοχθίζοντι.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε βουκολικᾶς ταχέως ἀρξάμεθ' αἰοιδᾶς,  
 Σιμιχίδα· κῆγὼ μὲν, ὄρη φίλος, εἴ τοι ἀρέσκει 50  
 τοῦθ' ὅτι πρᾶν ἐν ὄρει τὸ μελύδριον ἐξεπόνασα·

Ἔσσεται Ἀγεάνακτι καλὸς πλόος εἰς Μιτυ-  
 λήναν,  
 χῶκκεν<sup>2</sup> ἐφ' ἐσπερίοις Ἑρίφοις νότος ὕγρα διώκη  
 κύματα, χ' Ὠρίων ὄκ'<sup>3</sup> ἐπ' ὤκεανῳ πόδας ἴσχη,  
 αἶ κεν τὸν Λυκίδαυ ὀπτεύμενον ἐξ' Ἀφροδίτας  
 ῥύσσηται· θερμὸς γὰρ ἔρως αὐτῷ με καταίθει.  
 χαλκύνους στορεσεῦντι τὰ κύματα τάν τε θάλασ-  
 σαν

τόν τε νότον τόν τ' εὖρον, ὃς ἔσχατα φυκία  
 κινεῖ,  
 ἀλκυόνες, γλαυκαῖς Νηρηίσι ταὶ τὰ μάλιστα  
 ὀρνίχων ἐφίληθεν, ὅσαις τέ περ ἐξ ἄλλος ἄγρα. 60  
 Ἀγεάνακτι πλόον διζημένῳ εἰς Μιτυλήναν  
 ὦρια πάντα γένοιτο, καὶ εὐπλοος ὄρμον ἵκοιτο.  
 κῆγὼ τῆνον κατ' ἄμαρ ἀνήτινον ἢ ῥοδόεντα  
 ἢ καὶ λευκοίων στέφανον περὶ κρατὶ φυλάσσω  
 τὸν πτελεατικὸν οἶνον ἀπὸ κρατήρος ἀφυξῶ  
 παρ πυρὶ κεκλιμένος, κύαμον δέ τις ἐν πυρὶ  
 φρυξεί.

<sup>1</sup> ἀηδῶ E, cf. 1. 136, 5 136 and Bergk *Poet. Lyr.* <sup>4</sup> III  
 p. 140: mss αἰοιδόν <sup>2</sup> χῶκκεν E. mss χῶταν <sup>3</sup> ὄκ' E:  
 mss ὄτ'

## THEOCRITUS VII, 47-66

strutting cocks o' the Muses' yard whose crowing  
makes so pitiful contention against the Chian  
nightingale. But enough; let's begin our country-  
songs, Simichidas First will I—pray look if you  
approve the ditty I made in the hills 'tother  
day. (*sings*)

What though the Kids above the flight of wave  
before the wind

Hang westward, and Orion's foot is e'en upon the sea?  
Fair voyage to Mitylenè town Agéanax shall find,  
Once from the furnace of his love his Lycidas be free.  
The halcyons—and of all the birds whose living's of  
the seas

The sweet green Daughters of the Deep love none  
so well as these—

- O they shall still the Southwind and the tangle-toss-  
ing East,

And lay for him wide Ocean and his waves along to  
rest

Ageanax late though he be for Mitylene bound  
Heav'n bring him blest wi' the season's best to haven  
safe and sound,

And that day I'll make merry, and bind about my brow  
The anise sweet or snowflake neat or rosebuds all a-  
row,

And there by the hearth I'll lay me down beside the  
cheerful cup,

And hot roast beans shall make my bite and elmy  
wine my sup,

“The Chian nightingale” Homer “The Kids” the  
time of the year indicated is at the end of November  
“The halcyons” said to command a calm for their nesting  
about the winter-solstice “Elmy wine” wine flavoured  
with elm-catkins, or else “wine of Ptelea”

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

χά στιβὰς ἐσσεῖται πεπυκασμένα ἔστ' ἐπὶ πᾶχυν  
 κνύζα τ' ἀσφοδέλφ τε πολυγνάμπτω τε σελίνῳ,  
 καὶ πίομαι μαλακῶς μεμναμένος Ἀγεάνακτος  
 αὐταῖσιν κυλίκεσσι καὶ ἐς τρύγα χεῖλος ἐρείδων. 70

αὐλησεῦντι δέ μοι δύο ποιμένες, εἷς μὲν  
 Ἀχαρνεύς,

εἷς δὲ Λυκωπείτας· ὁ δὲ Τίτυρος ἐγγύθεν ἄσει,  
 ὥς ποκα τᾶς Ξενέας ἡράσσατο Δάφνις ὁ βούτας,  
 χῶς ὄρος ἀμφεπονεῖτο, καὶ ὥς δρύες αὐτὸν ἐθρή-  
 νευν,

Ἰμέρα αἶτε φύοντι παρ' ὄχθαισιν ποταμοῖο,  
 εὖτε χιῶν ὥς τις κατετάκετο μακρὸν ὑφ' Αἴμον  
 ἢ Ἀθῶ ἢ Ῥοδόπαν ἢ Καύκασον ἐσχατόντα.

ἄσει δ' ὥς ποκ' ἔδεκτο τὸν αἰπόλον εὐρέα  
 λάρναξ

ζῶν ἐόντα κακαῖσιν ἀτασθαλίαισιν ἄνακτος,  
 ὥς τέ νιν αἰ σιμαὶ λειμωνόθε φέρβον λοῖσαι 80  
 κέδρον ἐς ἀδείαν μαλακοῖς ἄνθεσσι μέλισσαι,  
 οὐνεκά οἱ γλυκὺ Μοῖσα κατὰ στόματος χέε νέκταρ.  
 ὦ μακαριστὲ Κομᾶτα, τύ θην τάδε τερπνὰ πεπόν-  
 θεις,

καὶ τὸ κατεκλάσθης ἐς λάρνακα, καὶ τὸ  
 μελισσᾶν



## THEOCRITUS VII, 67-84

And soft I'll lie, for elbow-high my bed strown thick  
and well

Shall be of crinkled parsley, mullet, and asphodel ;  
And so t' Ageanax I'll drink, drink wi' my dear in  
mind,

Drink wine and wine-cup at a draught and leave no  
lees behind

My pipers shall be two shepherds, a man of  
Acharnae he,

And he a man of Lycópè ; singer shall Tityrus be,  
And sing beside me of Xenea and neatherd Daphnis'  
love,

How the hills were troubled around him and the  
oaks sang dirges above,

Sang where they stood by Himeras flood, when he  
a-wasting lay

Like snow on Haemus or Athos or Caucasus far far  
away.

And I'll have him sing how once a king, of wilful  
malice bent,

In the great coffer all alive the goatherd-poet  
pent,

And the snub bees came from the meadow to the  
coffer of sweet cedar-tree,

And fed him there o' the flowerets fair, because his  
lip was free

O' the Muses' wine , Comátas ! 'twas joy, all joy to  
thee ,

Though thou wast hid 'neath cedarn lid, the bees thy  
meat did bring,

“His lip was free of the Muses' wine” the Greek has  
“nectar,” and the meaning is that he was a poet

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κηρία φερβόμενος ἔτος ὥριον ἐξεπόνασας.  
αἰθ' ἐπ' ἐμεῦ ζωοῖς ἐναρίθμιος ὄφελος ἦμεν,  
ὥς τοι ἐγὼν ἐνόμουν ἀν' ὥρεα τὰς καλὰς αἶγας  
φωνᾶς εἰσαίων, τὺ δ' ὑπὸ δρυσὶν ἢ ὑπὸ πεύκαις  
ἀδὺ μελίσδόμενος κατεκέκλισο θεῖε Κομᾶτα.'

χῶ μὲν τόσσ' εἰπὼν ἀπεπαύσατο· τὸν δὲ μέτ'  
αὖτις<sup>1</sup>

90

κῆγ' αὖ τοι' ἐφάμαν· Λυκίδα φίλε, πολλὰ μὲν ἄλλα  
Νύμφαι κῆμ' εἰδίδαν ἀν' ὥρεα βουκολέοντα  
ἐσθλά, τὰ που καὶ Ζηνὸς ἐπὶ θρόνον ἄγαγε φάμα·  
ἀλλὰ τόγ' ἐκ πάντων μέγ' ὑπείροχον, ᾧ τυ γεραίρειν  
ἀρξεῦμ'· ἀλλ' ὑπάκουσον, ἐπεὶ φίλος ἔπλεο Μοί-  
σαις·

· Σιμιχίδα μὲν Ἑρωτες ἐπέπτарον· ἦ γὰρ ὁ  
δειλὸς  
τόσσον ἐρᾷ Μυρτοῦς, ὅσον εἶαρος αἶγες ἐρᾶντι.  
ἽΩρατος δ' ὁ τὰ πάντα φιλαίτατος ἀνέρι τήνφ  
παιδὸς ὑπὸ σπλάγχνοισιν ἔχει πόθον· οἶδεν Ἄρισ-  
τις,  
ἐσθλὸς ἀνὴρ, μέγ' ἄριστος, ὃν οὐδέ κεν αὐτὸς  
αἰεῖδεν

100

Φοῖβος σὺν φόρμιγγι παρὰ τριπόδεσσι μεγαίροι,  
ὥς ἐκ παιδὸς ἽΩρατος ὑπ' ὀστέον αἶθετ' ἔρωτι.  
τόν μοι Πάν, Ὀμόλας ἐρατὸν πέδον ὅστε λέλογχας,  
ἄκκλητον κείνοιο φίλας ἐς χεῖρας ἐρείσας,

<sup>1</sup> αὖτις Ahr · mss αὖθις

THEOCRITUS VII, 85-104

Till thou didst thole, right happy soul, thy twelve  
months' prisoning  
And O of the quick thou wert this day! How  
gladly then with mine  
I had kept thy pretty goats i' the hills, the while  
'neath oak or pine  
Thou 'dst lain along and sung me a song, Comatas  
the divine!"

So much sang Lycidas and ended; and thereupon  
"Dear Lycidas," said I, "afield with my herds on the  
hills I also have learnt of the Nymphs, and there's  
many a good song of mine which Rumour may well  
have carried up to the throne of Zeus But this of  
all is far the choicest, this which I will sing now for  
your delight. Pray give ear, as one should whom  
the Muses love: (*sings*)

The Loves have sneezed, for sure they have, on poor  
Simichidas:  
For he loves maid Myrto as goats the spring: but  
where he loves a lass  
His dear'st Aratus sighs for a lad Aristis, dear  
good man—  
And best in fame as best in name, the Lord o' the  
Lyre on high  
Beside his holy tripod would let him make melody—  
Aristis knows Aratus' woes O bring the lad, sweet  
Pan,  
Sweet Lord of lovely Homolè, bring him unbid to 's  
fere,

"Have sneezed" a sneeze meant good luck, and a man  
deeply in love was said to have been sneezed upon by the  
Loves. "Lord of the Lyre" the Greek has "Apollo"

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εἴτ' ἔστ' ἄρα Φιλῖνος ὁ μαλθακὸς εἴτε τις ἄλλος.  
κεῖ μὲν ταῦτ' ἔρδοις ὦ Πᾶν φίλε, μή τι τῷ  
παῖδες

Ἀρκαδικοὶ σκίλλαισιν ὑπὸ πλευράς τε καὶ ὤμων  
τανίκα μαστίσδοιεν, ὅτε κρέα τυτθὰ παρείη·  
εἰ δ' ἄλλως νεύσαις, κατὰ μὲν χροῶ πάντ'  
ὀνύχεσσι

δακνόμενος κνύσαιο καὶ ἐν κνίδαισι καθεύδοις, 110  
εἷης δ' Ἥδωνῶν μὲν ἐν ὥρεσι χεῖματι μέσσω  
Ἐβρον παρ ποταμὸν τετραμμένον ἐγγύθεν Ἀρκτω,  
ἐν δὲ θέρει πυμάτοισι παρ' Αἰθιόπεσσι νομεύοις  
πέτρα ὑπο Βλεμύων, ὅθεν οὐκέτι Νεῖλος ὁρατός.

ὑμεῖς δ' Ἑτείδος καὶ Βυβλίδος ἀδὺ λιπόντες  
νᾶμα καὶ Οἰκεῦντα, ξανθᾶς ἔδος αἰπὺ Διώνας,  
ὦ μάλοισιν Ἐρωτες ἐρευθομένοισιν ὁμοιοί,  
βάλλετέ μοι τόξοισι τὸν ἡμερόεντα Φιλῖνον,  
βάλλετ', ἐπεὶ τὸν ξεῖνον ὁ δῦσμορος οὐκ ἐλεεῖ  
μεν.

καὶ δὴ μὲν<sup>1</sup> ἀπίοιο πεπαίτερος, αἱ δὲ γυναῖκες 120  
'αἰαῖ' φαντὶ 'Φιλῖνε, τό τοι καλὸν ἄνθος ἀπορρεῖ.'  
μηκέτι τοι φρουρέωμες ἐπὶ προθύροισιν Ἀρατε,  
μηδὲ πόδας τρίβωμες· ὁ δ' ὄρθριος ἄλλον ἀλέκτωρ

<sup>1</sup> δὴ μὲν. mss also δὴ μάλ

## THEOCRITUS VII, 105-123

Whether Philinus, sooth to say, or other be his dear.  
This do, sweet Pan, and never, when slices be too few,  
May the leeks o' the lads of Arcady beat thee black  
and blue;

But O if othergates thou go, may nettles make thy  
bed

And set thee scratching tooth and nail, scratching  
from heel to head,

And be thy winter-lodging nigh the Bear up Hebrus  
way

I' the hills of Thrace, when summer's in, mid  
furthest Africa

Mayst feed thy flock by the Blemyan rock beyond  
Nile's earliest spring.

O come ye away, ye little Loves like apples red-  
blushing,

From Byblis' fount and Oecus' mount that is fair-  
haired Dion's joy,

Come shoot the fair Philinus, shoot me the silly boy  
That flouts my friend! Yet after all, the pear's o'er-  
ripe to taste,

And the damsels sigh and the damsels say 'Thy  
bloom, child, fails thee fast';

So let's watch no more his gate before, Aratus, o'  
this gear,

But ease our aching feet, my friend, and let old  
chanticleer

"Leeks" the sea-leek had purificatory uses; the poet refers here to what was apparently the current explanation of a flogging rite—the choisters flogged the statue of Pan at the feast because they had once received short commons  
"Dion" Diōne is Aphrodite or her mother, the Loves are summoned from the district of Miletus "O' this gear" in this way "Aching feet" from standing about at the door, one of the conventional signs of being in love

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κοκκύζων νάρκαισιν ἀνιαραῖσι διδοίη,  
εἷς δ' ἀπὸ τᾶσδε φέριστε μολῶν ἄγχοιτο παλαί-  
στρας.<sup>1</sup>

ἄμμιν δ' ἀσυχία τε μέλοι γραία τε παρείη,  
ἅτις ἐπιφθύζοισα τὰ μὴ καλὰ νόσφιν ἐρύκοι.'

τόσσ' ἐφάμαν· ὃ δέ μοι τὸ λαγωβόλον, ἀδὺ  
γελάσσας

ὥς πάρος, ἐκ Μοισᾶν ξεινήϊον ὥπασεν ἡμεν.  
χῶ μὲν ἀποκλίνας ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ τὰν ἐπὶ Πύξας 130  
εἶρφ' ὁδόν, αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τε καὶ Εὐκριτος ἐς Φρα-  
σιδάμω

στραφθέντες χῶ καλὸς Ἀμύντιχος ἔν τε βαθείαις  
ἀδείας σχοῖνοιο χαμευνίσιν ἐκλίνθημες  
ἐν τε νεοτμάτοισι γεγαθότες οἶναρέαισι.

πολλαὶ δ' ἄμμιν ὑπερθε κατὰ κρατὸς δονέοντο  
αἴγειροι πτελέαι τε· τὸ δ' ἐγγύθεν ἱερὸν ὕδωρ  
Νυμφᾶν ἐξ ἄντροιο κατειβόμενον κελάρυζε.  
τοὶ δὲ ποτὶ σκιαραῖς ὀροδαμνισιν αἰθαλίωνες  
τέπτιγες λαλαγεῦντες ἔχον πόνον ἃ δ' ὀλολυγῶν  
τηλόθεν ἐν πυκιναῖσι βάτων τρύζεσκεν ἀκάνθαις. 140  
ἄειδον κόρυδοι καὶ ἀκανθίδες, ἔστενε τρυγῶν,  
πωτῶντο ξουθαὶ περὶ πίδακας ἀμφὶ μέλισσαι.  
πάντ' ὥσδεν θέρεος μάλα πίονος, ὥσδε δ' ὀπώρας.  
ὄχλαι μὲν πὰρ ποσσί, περὶ πλευραῖσι δὲ μᾶλα  
δαφυλέως ἀμῖν ἐκυλίνδετο· τοὶ δ' ἐκέχυντο  
ὄρπακες βραβίλοισι καταβρίθοντες ἔραζε.

τετράευνες δὲ πίθων ἀπελύετο κρατὸς ἄλειφαρ·  
Νύμφαι Κασταλίδες Παρνάσσιον αἶπος ἔχοισαι,

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Plat. *Gorg.* 439 D ἄλλην σοι εἰκόνα λέγω ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ  
γυμνασίου τῇ νῦν, and Ar. *Vesp.* 526

THEOCRITUS VII, 124-148

Cry 'shiver' to some other when he the dawn shall  
sing,  
One scholar o' that school's enough to have met his  
death i' the ring.  
'Tis peace of mind, lad, we must find, and have a  
beldame nigh  
To sit for us and spit for us and bid all ill go by."

So far my song; and Lycidas, with a merry laugh  
as before, bestowed the crook upon me to be the  
Muses' pledge of friendship, and so bent his way to  
the left-hand and went down the Pyxa road; and  
Eucritus and I and pretty little Amyntas turned in  
at Phrasidamus's and in deep greenbeds of fragrant  
reeds and fresh-cut vine-strippings laid us rejoicing  
down.

Many an aspen, many an elm bowed and rustled  
overhead, and hard by, the hallowed water welled  
purling forth of a cave of the Nymphs, while the  
brown cricket chirped busily amid the shady leafage,  
and the tree-frog murmured aloof in the dense  
thornbrake Lark and goldfinch sang and turtle  
moaned, and about the spring the bees hummed and  
hovered to and fro All nature smelt of the opulent  
summer-time, smelt of the season of fruit Pears  
lay at our feet, apples on either side, rolling abundantly,  
and the young branches lay splayed upon the  
ground because of the weight of their damsons

Meanwhile we broke the four-year-old seal from  
off the lips of the jars, and O ye Castalian Nymphs  
that dwell on Parnassus' height, did ever the aged

"One scholar o' that school" one dallier with such  
follies "Castalian Nymphs" all nymphs were  
Castalian,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἦρά γέ πα τοιόνδε Φόλω κατὰ λάινον ἄντρον  
 κρατῆρ' Ἑρακλῆι γέρων ἐστάσατο Χείρων;  
 ἦρά γέ πα τῆνον τὸν ποιμένα τὸν ποτ' Ἀνάπῳ,  
 τὸν κρατερὸν Πολύφαμον, ὃς ὥρεσι νᾶας<sup>1</sup> ἔβαλλε,  
 τοῖον νέκταρ ἔπεισε κατ' αὖλια ποσσὶ χορεῦσαι,  
 οἶον δὴ τόκα πῶμα διεκρανάσατε Νύμφαι  
 βωμῷ παρ Δάματρος ἀλωίδος; ἃς ἐπὶ σωρῷ  
 αὖτις ἐγὼ πάξαιμι μέγα πτύον, ἃ δὲ γελάσσαι  
 δράγματα καὶ μάκωνας ἐν ἀμφοτέραισιν ἔχοισα.

<sup>1</sup> νᾶας Heinsius . mss λᾶας



## THEOCRITUS VII, 149-157

Cheiron in Pholus' rocky cave set before Heracles  
such a bowlful as that ? And the mighty Polypheme  
who kept sheep beside the Anapus and had at ships  
with mountains, was it for such nectar he footed it  
around his steading—such a draught as ye Nymphs  
gave us that day of your spring by the altar of  
Demeter o' the Threshing-floor ? of her, to wit, upon  
whose cornheap I pray I may yet again plant the  
great purging-fan while she stands smiling by with  
wheatsheaves and poppies in either hand.

‘ Of your spring ’ the wine was drunk mixed with water.  
“ Demeter ” a harvest-effigy



## VIII.—THE SECOND COUNTRY SINGING-MATCH

*THE characters of this shepherd-mime are the mythical personages Daphnis the neatherd and Menalcas the shepherd, and an unnamed goatherd who plays umpire in their contest of song. After four lines by way of stage-direction, the conversation opens with mutual banter between the two young countrymen, and leads to a singing-match with pipes for the stakes. Each sings four alternate elegiac quatrains and an envoy of eight hexameters. In the first three pairs of quatrains Menalcas sets the theme and Daphnis takes it up. The first pair is addressed to the landscape, and contains mutual compliments; the remainder deal with love. The last pair of quatrains and the two envoys do not correspond in theme. The resemblance of most of the competing stanzas has caused both loss and transposition in the manuscripts. From metrical and linguistic considerations the poem is clearly not the work of Theocritus.*

## VIII.—ΒΟΥΚΟΛΙΑΣΤΑΙ

Δάφνιδι τῷ χαρίεντι συνήντετο βουκολέοντι  
 μᾶλα νέμων, ὥς φαντί, κατ' ὄρεα μακρὰ Μενάλκας.  
 ἄμφω τῶγ' ἦστην πυρροτρίχῳ, ἄμφω ἀνήβῳ,  
 ἄμφω συρίσδεν δεδαημένῳ, ἄμφω αἰείδεν.  
 πρᾶτος δ' ὦν ποτὶ Δάφνιν ἰδὼν ἀγόρευε Μενάλκας·  
 'μυκητᾶν ἐπίουρε βοῶν Δάφνι, λῆς μοι αἰεῖσαι;  
 φαμί τυ νικασεῖν ὅσσον θέλω, αὐτὸς αἰείδων.'  
 τὸν δ' ἄρα χῶ Δάφνις τοιῶδ' ἀπαμείβετο μύθῳ·  
 'ποιμλὴν εἰροπόκων ὀίων συρικτὰ Μενάλκα,  
 οὔποτε νικασεῖς μ', οὐδ' εἴ τι πάθοις τύνγ' αἰείδων.'

### ΜΕΝΑΛΚΑΣ

χρήσδεις ὦν ἐσιδεῖν; χρήσδεις καταθεῖναι ἄεθλον;

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

χρήσδω τοῦτ' ἐσιδεῖν, χρήσδω καταθεῖναι ἄεθλον.

### ΜΕΝΑΛΚΑΣ

καὶ τίνα θησεύμεσθ', ὅτις ἀμῶν ἄρκιος εἴη;

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μόσχον ἐγὼ θησῶ· τὸ δὲ θές ἰσομάτορα τήνον.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> τήνον E mss ἀμνόν (with unlikely hiatus) from gloss

## VIII.—THE SECOND COUNTRY SINGING-MATCH

ONCE on a day the fair Daphnis, out upon the long hills with his cattle, met Menalcas keeping his sheep. Both had ruddy heads, both were striplings grown, both were players of music, and both knew how to sing. Looking now towards Daphnis, Menalcas first ‘What, Daphnis,’ cries he, ‘thou watchman o’ bellowing kine, art thou willing to sing me somewhat? I’ll warrant, come my turn, I shall have as much the better of thee as I choose.’ And this was Daphnis’ answer: ‘Thou shepherd o’ woolly sheep, thou mere piper Menalcas, never shall the likes of thee have the better of me in a song, strive he never so hard.’

MENALCAS

Then will ’t please you look hither? Will’t please you lay a wage?

DAPHNIS

Aye, that it will; I’ll both look you and lay you, too

MENALCAS

And what shall our wage be? what shall be sufficient for us?

DAPHNIS

Mine shall be a calf, only let yours be that mother-tall fellow yonder.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### MENAEALCAS

οὐ θησῶ ποκα τήνον<sup>1</sup>, ἐπεὶ χαλεπὸς ὁ πατήρ μεν  
χὰ μάτηρ, τὰ δὲ μᾶλα ποθέσπερα πάντ' ἀριθ-  
μεῦντι.

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἀλλὰ τί μὰν θησεῖς; τί δὲ τὸ πλέον ἐξεῖ ὁ νικῶν;

### MENAEALCAS

σύριγγ' ἂν ἐπόησα καλὰν ἐγὼ ἐννεάφωνον,  
λευκὸν κηρὸν ἔχουσιν ἴσον κάτω ἴσον ἄνωθεν.  
ταύταν κα θείην, τὰ δὲ τῷ πατρὸς οὐ καταθησῶ.

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἦ μὰν τοι κήγῳ σύριγγ' ἔχω ἐννεάφωνον,  
λευκὸν κηρὸν ἔχουσιν ἴσον κάτω ἴσον ἄνωθεν.  
πρῶαν νιν συνέπαξ'. ἔτι καὶ τὸν δάκτυλον ἀλγέω  
τοῦτον, ἐπεὶ κάλαμός με διασχισθείς νιν ἔτμαξεν.<sup>2</sup>

### MENAEALCAS

ἀλλὰ τίς ἄμμε κρινεῖ; τίς ἐπάκοος ἔσσεται ἀμέων;

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

τῆνόν πως ἐνταῦθα τὸν αἰπόλον, ἦν καλέσωμες,  
ὃ ποτὶ ταῖς ἐρίφοις ὁ κύων ὁ φαλαρὸς ὑλακτεῖ.

χοῖ μὲν παῖδες ἄυσαν, ὁ δ' αἰπόλος ἦνθ' ἐπα-  
κούσαι,  
οἱ<sup>3</sup> μὲν παῖδες αἶδον, ὁ δ' αἰπόλος ἤθελε κρίνειν.  
πρᾶτος δ' ὦν αἶδε λαχὼν ἱκτὰ Μενάλκας,  
εἶτα δ' ἀμοιβαίαν ὑπελάμβανε Δάφνις ἀοιδὰν  
βουκολικάν· οὕτω δὲ Μενάλκας ἄρξατο πρᾶτος·

<sup>1</sup> ποκα τήνον E mss ποκα ἀμνόν, cf. 14  
Meineke mss διέτμαξε <sup>3</sup> οἱ E mss χοῖ

<sup>2</sup> νιν ἔτμαξεν

## THEOCRITUS VIII, 15-32

MENALCAS

He shall be no wage of mine    Father and  
mother are both sour as can be, and tell the flock to  
a head every night

DAPHNIS

Well, but what is't to be ? and what's the winner  
to get for's pains ?

MENALCAS

Here's a gallant nine-stop pipe I have made, with  
good white beeswax the same top and bottom, this  
I'm willing to lay, but I'll not stake what is my  
father's.

DAPHNIS

Marry, I have a nine-stop pipe likewise, and it like  
yours hath good white beeswax the same top and  
bottom    I made it t'other day, and my finger here  
sore yet where a split reed cut it for me    (*each  
stakes a pipe*)

MENALCAS

But who's to be our judge ? who's to do the  
hearing for us ?

DAPHNIS

Peradventure that goatherd yonder, if we call  
him, him wi' that spotted flock-dog a-barking near  
by the kids

So the lads holla'd, and the goatherd came  
to hear them, the lads sang and the goatherd was  
fain to be their judge. Lots were cast, and 'twas  
Menalcas Loud-o'-voice to begin the country-song  
and Daphnis to take him up by course. Menalcas  
thus began :

“By course”    stanza by stanza

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

Ἄγρεα καὶ ποταμοί, θεῖον γένος, αἷ τι Μενάλκας  
 πήποχ' ὁ συρικτὰς προσφιλὲς ἄσπε μέλος,  
 βόσκοιτ' ἐκ ψυχᾶς τὰς ἀμνάδας· ἦν δέ ποκ' ἔνθη  
 Δάφνις ἔχων δαμάλας, μηδὲν ἔλασσον ἔχοι.

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

κρᾶναι καὶ βοτάναι, γλυκερὸν φυτόν, αἵπερ ὁμοῖον  
 μουσίσδει Δάφνις ταῖσιν ἀηδονίσι,  
 τοῦτο τὸ βουκόλιον πιαίνετε· κῆν τι Μενάλκας  
 τεῖδ' ἀγάγη, χαίρων ἀφθονα πάντα νέμοι.

### ΜΕΝΑΛΚΑΣ

ἔνθ' οἷς, ἔνθ' αἵγες διδυματόκοι, ἔνθα μέλισσαι<sup>1</sup>  
 σμάνεα πληροῦσιν, καὶ δρύες ὑψίτεραι,  
 ἔνθ' ὁ καλὸς Μίλων βαίνει ποσίν· αἱ δ' ἂν ἀφέρπη,  
 χῶ ποιμὴν ξηρὸς τηνόθι χαὶ βοτάναι.

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

παντᾷ ἔαρ, παντᾷ δὲ νομοί, παντᾷ δὲ γάλακτος  
 οὔθ' ατα πιδῶσιν,<sup>2</sup> καὶ τὰ νέα τρέφεται,  
 ἔνθα καλὰ Ναῖς<sup>3</sup> ἐπινίσσεται· αἱ δ' ἂν ἀφέρπη,  
 χῶ τὰς βῶς βόσκων χαὶ βόες αὐότεραι.

### ΜΕΝΑΛΚΑΣ

ὦ τράγε, τῶν λευκᾶν αἰγῶν ἄνερ, ὦ βάθος<sup>4</sup> ὕλας  
 μυρίον (αἱ σιμαὶ<sup>5</sup> δεῦτ' ἐφ' ὕδωρ ἔριφοι)·

<sup>1</sup> 41-47 transposed by Anon. *Ephem Goth* 1803 22  
<sup>2</sup> πιδῶσιν Ahrens mss πηδῶσιν, schol also πλῆθουσιν <sup>3</sup> Ναῖς  
 Mein mss παῖς <sup>4</sup> ὦ βάθος schol mss ὦ β <sup>5</sup> αἱ σιμαὶ  
 Wil. mss ὦ σ.



## THEOCRITUS VIII, 33-50

Ye woods and waters, wondrous race,  
Lith and listen of your grace,  
If e'er my song was your delight  
Feed my lambs with all your might;  
And if Daphnis wend this way,  
Make his calves as fat as they.

### DAPHNIS

Ye darling wells and meadows dear,  
Sweets o' the earth, come lend an ear;  
If like the nightingales I sing,  
Give my cows good pasturing,  
And if Menalcas e'er you see,  
Fill his flock and make him glee.

### MENALCAS

Where sweet Milon trips the leas  
There's fuller hives and loftier trees,  
Where'er those pretty footings fall  
Goats and sheep come twinnings all;  
If elsewhere those feet be gone,  
Pasture's lean and shepherd lone.

### DAPHNIS

Where sweet Nais comes a-straying  
There the green meads go a-maying;  
Where'er her pathway lies along,  
There's springing teats and growing young;  
If elsewhere her gate be gone,  
Cows are dry and herd fordone.

### MENALCAS

Buck-goat, husband of the she's,  
Hie to th' wood's infinities—  
Nay, snubbies, hither to the spring;  
This errand's not for your running;—

“ Snubbies ” kids.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἐν τήνῳ γὰρ τήνος· ἴθ' ὦ καλὲ<sup>1</sup> καὶ λέγε, Μίλων,  
ὁ Πρωτεύς φώκας καὶ θεὸς ὦν<sup>2</sup> ἔνεμε.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

\* \* \* \* \*

MENALCAS

μή μοι γὰρ Πέλοπος, μή μοι Κροίσεια<sup>3</sup> τάλαντα  
εἶη ἔχειν, μηδὲ πρόσθε θείειν ἀνέμων·  
ἀλλ' ὑπὸ τῇ πέτρᾳ τῇδ' ἄσομαι ἀγκὰς ἔχων τυ,  
σύννομε<sup>4</sup> κάλ'<sup>5</sup>, ἐσορῶν τὰν Σικελάν ἐς ἄλλα.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

δένδρεσι μὲν χειμῶν φοβερὸν κακόν, ὕδασι δ'  
αὐχμός,  
ὄρνισιν δ' ὕσπλαγξ, ἀγροτέροις δὲ λίνα,  
ἀνδρὶ δὲ παρθενικᾷς ἀπαλᾶς πόθος. ὦ πάτερ ὦ Ζεῦ,  
οὐ μόνος ἡράσθην· καὶ τὴν γυναικοφίλῃς.

ταῦτα μὲν ὦν, δι' ἀμοιβαίων οἱ παῖδες ἄεισαν·  
τὰν πυματὰν δ' ὥδ' ὅτ' οὕτως ἐξᾶρχε Μενάλκας·

Φείδευ τᾶν ἐρίφων, φείδευ λύκε τᾶν τοκάδων μεν,  
μηδ' ἀδίκη μ', ὅτι μικκὸς ἐὼν πολλαῖσιν ὁμαρτέω.  
ὦ Λάμπουρε κύον, οὕτω βαθὺς ὕπνος ἔχει τυ;  
οὐ χρὴ κοιμᾶσθαι βαθέως σὺν παιδὶ νέμοντα.  
ταὶ δ' ὄϊες, μηδ' ὕμμες ὀκνεῖθ' ἀπαλᾶς κορέσασθαι  
ποιᾶς· οὐ τι καμείσθ', ὅκκα πάλιν ἄδε φύηται.

<sup>1</sup> καλέ schol. : mss and schol κολέ      <sup>2</sup> ὦν Mein · mss ὡς  
<sup>3</sup> Κροίσεια Jortin mss χρύσεια      <sup>4</sup> σύννομε Graefe · mss  
σύννομα      <sup>5</sup> κάλ' Mein · mss μάλ'

THEOCRITUS VIII, 51-68

Go, buck, and "Fairest Milon" say,  
"A God kept seals once on a day."

[*Daphnis' reply is lost*]

MENALCAS

I would not Pelops' tilth untold  
Nor all Croesus' coffered gold,  
Nor yet t' outfoot the storm-wind's breath,  
So I may sit this rock beneath,  
Pretty pasture-mate, wi' thee,  
And gaze on the Sicilian sea

DAPHNIS

Wood doth fear the tempest's ire,  
Water summer's drouthy fire,  
Beasts the net and birds the snare,  
Man the love of maiden fair;  
Not I alone lie under ban;  
Zeus himself's a woman's man.

So far went the lads' songs by course. Now 'twas  
the envoy, and Menalcas thus began:

Spare, good Wolf, the goats you see,  
Spare them dam and kid for me,  
If flock is great and flockman small,  
Is't reason you should wrong us all?  
Come, White-tail, why so sound asleep?  
Good dogs wake when boys tend sheep.  
Fear not, ewes, your fill to eat,  
For when the new blade sprouteth sweet,  
Then ye shall no losers be;

"A God kept seals"· Proteus, the message means 'Do  
not despise your lover because he keeps sheep' "Lie  
under ban": the Greek has 'have fallen in love.'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

σίττα νέμεσθε νέμεσθε, τὰ δ' οὐθατα πλήσατε  
 πᾶσαι,  
 ὥς τὸ μὲν ὥρνες ἔχωντι, τὸ δ' ἐς ταλάρως ἀποθῶμαι.

δεύτερος αὖ Δάφνις λιγυρῶς ἀνεβάλλετ' αἰείδεν·

Κῆμ' ἐκ σπήλυγγος<sup>1</sup> σύνοφρυς κόρα ἐχθρὸς ἰδοῖσα  
 τὰς δαμάλας παρελᾶντα καλὸν καλὸν ἦμεν  
 ἔφασκεν·

οὐ μὰν οὐδὲ λέγων ἐκρίθην ἄπο τὸν πικρὸν αὐτᾶς,<sup>2</sup>  
 ἀλλὰ κάτω βλέψας τὰν ἀμετέραν ὁδὸν εἴρπον.  
 ἀδεῖ' ἃ φωνὰ τᾶς πόρτιος, ἀδὺ τὸ πνεῦμα·  
 ἀδὺ δὲ τῷ θέρεος παρ' ὕδωρ ῥέον αἰθριοκοιτεῖν.  
 τᾷ δρυὶ ταὶ βάλανοι κόσμος, τᾷ μαλίδι μᾶλα,  
 τᾷ βοὶ δ' ἃ μόσχος, τῷ βουκόλῳ αἱ βόες αὐταί.

ὥς οἱ παῖδες ἄεισαν, ὁ δ' αἰπόλος ὦδ' ἀγόρευεν·  
 'ἀδὺ τι τὸ στόμα τοι καὶ ἐφίμερος ὦ Δάφνι φωνά.  
 κρέσσον μελπομένῳ τευ ἀκουέμεν ἢ μέλι λείχειν.  
 λάξο τᾶς σύριγγος<sup>3</sup>· ἐνίκασας γὰρ αἰείδων.  
 αἱ δέ τι λῆς με καὶ αὐτὸν ἄμ' αἰπολέοντα διδάξαι,  
 τήναν τὰν μιτύλαν<sup>4</sup> δωσῶ τὰ δίδακτρά τοι αἶγα,  
 αἵτις ὑπὲρ κεφαλᾶς αἰεὶ τὸν ἀμολγέα πληροῖ.'

<sup>1</sup> σπήλυγγος E, cf 16 53 · mss τῷ ἄντρω    <sup>2</sup> λέγων and αὐτᾶς E, taking ἀπεκρίθην as 'parted from,' supplying λόγον · mss λόγων or λόγῳ and αὐτᾷ    <sup>3</sup> τᾶς σύριγγος Scaliger · mss τὰς σύριγγας    <sup>4</sup> μιτύλαν 'youngest and smallest' E: others as Lat. *mutulus* 'that has lost her horns' · mss μιτάλαν, μιτύλαν

77 ἀδὺ δὲ χῶ μόσχος γαρύεται, ἀδὺ δὲ χᾶ βῶς From 9. 7; Valckenaer rightly omits

## THEOCRITUS VIII, 69-87

To 't, and feed you every she,  
Feed till every udder teem  
Store for lambs and store for cream.

Then Daphnis, for his envoy, lifted up his tuneful voice, singing—

Yestermorn a long-browed maid,  
Spying from a rocky shade  
Neat and neathed passing by,  
Cries "What a pretty boy am I!"  
Did pretty boy the jape repay?  
Nay, bent his head and went his way.  
Sweet to hear and sweet to smell,  
God wot I love a heifer well,  
And sweet alsó 'neath summer sky  
To sit where brooks go babbling by,  
But 'tis berry and bush, 'tis fruit and tree,  
'Tis calf and cow, wi' my kine and me

So sang those two lads, and this is what the goat-herd said of their songs: "You, good Daphnis, have a sweet and delightful voice. Your singing is to the ear as honey to the lip. Here's the pipe, take it; your song has fairly won it you. And if you are willing to teach me how to sing as you sing while I share pasture with you, you shall have the little she-goat yonder to your school-money, and I warrant you she'll fill your pail up to the brim and further"

"Long-browed". the Greek is 'with meeting eye-brows.'  
"'Tis berry and bush" the Greek is 'acorn adorns oak, apple apple tree, calf cow, and cows cowherd.'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὥς μὲν ὁ παῖς ἐχάρη καὶ ἀνάλατο καὶ πλατάγησε  
νικάσας, οὕτως ἐπὶ ματέρι νεβρὸς ἄλοιτο.  
ὥς δὲ κατεσμύχθη καὶ ἀνετράπετο φρένα λύπα  
ἄτερος, οὕτω καὶ νύμφα δμαθεῖς<sup>1</sup> ἀκάχοιτο.  
κῆκ τούτῳ πρῶτος παρὰ ποιμέσι Δάφνις ἔγεντο,  
καὶ Νύμφαν ἄκρηβος ἐὼν ἔτι Ναίδα γᾶμεν.

<sup>1</sup> δμαθεῖς Ahrens mss γαμεθεῖς, γαμηθεῖς



## IX.—THE THIRD COUNTRY SINGING-MATCH

*THIS poem would seem to be merely a poor imitation of the last. The characters are two neatherds, Daphnis and Menalcas, and the wruter himself. We are to imagine the cattle to have just been driven out to pasture. There is no challenge and no stake. At the request of the wruter that they shall compete in song before him, each of the herdsmen sings seven lines, Daphnis setting the theme; and then the wruter, leaving it to be implied that he judged them equal, tells us how he gave them each a gift and what it was. The wruter now appeals to the Muses to tell him the song he himself sang on the occasion, and he sings a six-line song in their praise.*



## IX.—ΒΟΥΚΟΛΙΑΣΤΑΙ

Βουκολιάζεο Δάφνι, τὸ δ' ὥδᾳς ἄρχεο πρᾶτος,  
 ὥδᾳς ἄρχεο πρᾶτος, ἐφεψάσθω δὲ Μενάλκας,  
 μόσχως βουσὶν ἀφέντες ἔπι<sup>1</sup>, στείραισι δὲ ταύρωσ.  
 χοῖ μὲν ἀμᾶ βόσκειντο καὶ ἐν φύλλοισι πλανῶντο  
 μηδὲν ἀτιμαγελεύντες· ἐμὶν δὲ τὸ βουκολιάζευ  
 ἐκ τόθεν,<sup>2</sup> ἄλλωθεν δὲ ποτικρίνοιτο Μενάλκας.

### ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

Ἄδὺ μὲν ἂ μόσχος γαρύεται, ἄδὺ δὲ χαῖ βῶς,  
 ἄδὺ δὲ χαῖ σῦριγξ χῶ βουκόλος, ἄδὺ δὲ κήγών.  
 ἔστι δέ μοι παρ' ὕδωρ ψυχρὸν στιβάς, ἐν δὲ  
 νένασται

λευκᾶν ἐκ δαμαλᾶν καλὰ δέρματα, τὰς μοι ἀπάσας 10  
 λήψ' κόμαρον τρωγοίσας ἀπὸ σκοπιᾶς ἐτίναξε.  
 τῷ δὲ θέρευσ φρύγοντος ἐγὼ τόσσον μελεδαίνω,  
 ὅσσον ἐρῶν τὸ πατρὸς μύθων καὶ ματρὸς ἀκούειν.

οὕτως Δάφνις ἄεισεν ἐμίν, οὕτως δὲ Μενάλκας·

Ἀἴτνα μᾶτερ ἐμά, κήγῳ καλὸν ἄντρον ἐνοικέω  
 κοίλαις ἐν πέτραισιν· ἔχω δέ τοι, ὅσος ἐν ὀνείρῳ  
 φαίνονται, πολλὰς μὲν οἷς, πολλὰς δὲ χιμαίρας,  
 ὧν μοι πρὸς κεφαλῇ καὶ πρὸς ποσὶ κώεα κεῖται.

<sup>1</sup> ἀφέντες ἔπι E· mss ὑφέντες ὑπό (Vat 915 ἐπί) from 4 4?  
<sup>2</sup> ἐκ τόθεν Cholmeley from Ap Rhod. 2. 531 (of time): mss  
 and Schol ἔμποθεν and ἐν ποθ' ἐν

## IX.—THE THIRD COUNTRY SINGING-MATCH

SING a country-song, Daphnis. Be you the first and Menalcas follow when you have let out the calves to run with the cows and the bulls with the barren heifers. As for the cattle, may they feed together and wander together among the leaves and never stray alone, but do you come and sing me your song on this side and Menalcas stand for judgment against you on that

DAPHNIS (*sings*)

O sweet the cry o' the calf, and sweet the cry o' the  
cow,

And sweet the tune o' the neatherd's pipe, and I  
sing sweet enow ;

And a greenbed's mine by the cool brook-side  
Piled thick and thick with many a hide  
From the pretty heifers wi' skin so white  
Which the storm found browzing on the height  
And hurled them all below :

And as much reck I o' the scorching heat  
As a love-struck lad of his father's threat.

So sang me Daphnis, and then Menalcas thus :—

Etna, mother o' mine ! my shelter it is a grot,  
A pretty rift in a hollow cleft, and for skins to my  
bed, God wot,

Head and foot 'tis goats and sheep  
As many as be in a vision o' sleep,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἐν πυρὶ δὲ δρυῖνφ χόρια ζεῖ, ἐν πυρὶ δ' αὖαι  
φαγοὶ χειμαίνοντος· ἔχω δέ τοι οὐδ' ὅσον ὥραν  
χείματος ἢ νωδὸς καρύων ἀμύλοιο παρόντος.

τοῖς μὲν ἐπεπλατάγησα καὶ αὐτίκα δῶρον ἔδωκα,  
Δάφνιδι μὲν κορύναν, τάν μοι πατρός ἔτραφεν  
ἀγρός,  
αὐτοφυῇ, τὰν δ' οὐδ' ἂν ἴσως μιμάσατο<sup>1</sup> τέκτων,  
τήνφ δὲ στρόμβω καλὸν ὄστρακον, ὃ κρέας αὐτὸς  
σιτήθην πέτραισιν ἐν Ἰκαρίαισι δοκεύσας  
πέντε ταμὼν πέντ' οὔσιν· ὃ δ' ἐγκαναχῆσατο  
κόχλω

βουκολικαὶ Μοῖσαι μάλα χαίρετε, φαίνετε δ'  
ᾧδάν,<sup>2</sup>  
τὰν τόκ' ἐγὼ τήνοισι παρὼν ἄεισα νομεῦσι·  
μηκέτ' ἐπὶ γλώσσας ἄκρας ὀλοφυγγόνα φύση·<sup>3</sup>

Τέττιξ μὲν τέττιγι φίλος, μύρμακι δὲ μύρμαξ,  
ἴρηκες δ' ἴρηξιν, ἐμὴν δ' ἁ Μοῖσα καὶ ᾧδά.  
τὰς μοι πᾶς εἴη πλείους δόμος οὔτε γὰρ ὕπνος  
οὔτ' ἔαρ ἐξαπίνας<sup>4</sup> γλυκερώτερον, οὔτε μελίσ-  
σαις  
ἄνθεα τόσσον ἐμὴν Μοῖσαι φίλαι· οὓς γὰρ<sup>5</sup>  
ὀρεῦντι<sup>6</sup>  
γαθεῦσαι,<sup>7</sup> τούσδ' οὔ τι ποτὶ δαλήσατο Κίρκα.

<sup>1</sup> μιμάσατο Adert mss μωμάσατο <sup>2</sup> mss also ᾧδὰς τὰς  
<sup>3</sup> φύση Wil. mss φύσης <sup>4</sup> Perhaps ἐξάπινον adj., cf. Hipp  
de Aff 517 19 (adv.) and ἐξάπινα adv LXX, N T, and  
Byzant <sup>5</sup> mss also οὓς μὲν <sup>6</sup> Schol also ὀρήτε, δρώσαι  
<sup>7</sup> γαθεῦσαι. mss and Schol γαθεῦσι(ν)

THEOCRITUS IX, 19-36

And an oaken fire i' the winter days  
With chestnuts roasting at the blaze  
And puddings in the pot :  
And as little care I for the wintry sky  
As the toothless for nuts when porridge is by.

Then clapped I the lads both, and then and there  
gave them each a gift, Daphnis a club which grew  
upon my father's farm and e'en the same as it grew—  
albeit an artificer could not make one to match it—,  
and Menalcas a passing fine conch, of which the fish  
when I took it among the Icarian rocks furnished  
five portions for five mouths,—and he blew a blast  
upon the shell.

All hail, good Muses o' the countryside ! and the  
song I did sing that day before those herdsmen, let  
it no longer raise pushes on the tip o' my tongue,  
but show it me you :

*(the song)*

O cricket is to cricket dear, and ant for ant doth  
long,

The hawk's the darling of his fere, and o' me the  
Muse and her song :

Of songs be my house the home alway,  
For neither sleep, nor a sudden spring-day,  
Nor flowers to the bees, are as sweet as they ;

I love the Muse and her song  
For any the Muses be glad to see,  
Is proof agen Circe's witchery

“Pushes”· pimples on the tongue, the scholiast tells us,  
were a sign that one refuses to give up what another has  
entrusted to him



## X — THE REAPERS

THE characters of this pastoral mime are two reapers, Milon, the man of experience, and Bucaeus, called also Bucus, the lovesick youth. The conversation takes place in the course of their reaping, and leads to a love-song from the lover and a reaping-song from his kindly mentor. When Milon calls his song the song of the divine Lityerses he is using a generic term. There was at least one traditional reaping-song which told how Lityerses, son of Midas, of Celaenae in Phrygia, after entertaining strangers hospitably, made them reap with him till evening, when he cut off their heads and hid their bodies in the sheaves. This apparently gave the name to all reaping-songs. Milon's song, after a prayer to Demeter, addresses itself in succession to binders, threshers, and reapers, and lastly to the steward. Both songs are supposed to be impromptu, and sung as the men reap on.

## Χ.—ΕΡΓΑΤΙΝΑΙ Η ΘΕΡΙΣΤΑΙ

ΜΙΛΩΝ

Ἐργατίνα Βουκαῖε, τί νῦν ὥζυρὲ πεπόνθεις;  
οὔτε τὸν ὄγμον ἄγειν ὀρθὸν δύνῃς, ὥς τὸ πρὶν ἄγες,  
οὔθ' ἅμα λαοτομεῖς τῷ πλατίον, ἀλλ' ἀπολείπη  
ὥσπερ οἷς ποίμνας, ἅς τὸν πόδα κάκτος ἔτυψε.  
ποῖός τις δείλαν τὴν καὶ ἐκ μέσω ἁματος ἐσσή,  
ὃς νῦν ἀρχόμενος τᾶς αὐλάκος οὐκ ἀποτρῶγεις;

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

Μίλων ὀψαμᾶτα, πέτρας ἀπόκομμ' ἀτεράμνω,  
οὔδαμά τοι συνέβα ποθέσαι τινὰ τῶν ἀπεόντων;

ΜΙΛΩΝ

οὔδαμά. τίς δὲ πόθος τῶν ἔκτοθεν ἐργάτα ἀνδρί;

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

οὔδαμά νυν συνέβα τοι ἀγρυπνήσαι δι' ἔρωτα;

ΜΙΛΩΝ

μηδέ γε συμβαίη· χαλεπὸν χορίῳ κύνα γεῦσαι.

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ὦ Μίλων ἔραμαι σχεδὸν ἐνδεκαταῖος·

## X —THE REAPERS

MILON

HUSBANDMAN Bucaeus, what ails ye now, good drudge? you neither can cut your swath straight as once you did, nor keep time in your reaping with your neighbour. You're left behind by the flock like a ewe with a thorn in her foot. How will it be wi' you when noon is past and day o' the wane, if thus early you make not a clean bite o' your furrow?

BUCAEUS

Good master early-and-late-wi'-sickle, good Sir chip-o'-the-flint, good Milon, hath it never befallen thee to wish for one that is away?

MILON

Never, i' faith, what has a clown like me to do with wishing where there's no getting?

BUCAEUS

Then hath it never befallen thee to lie awake o' nights for love?

MILON

Nay, and God forbid it should. 'Tis ill letting the dog taste pudding.

BUCAEUS

But I've been in love, Milon, the better part of ten days;—



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΜΙΛΩΝ

ἐκ πίθῳ ἀντλείς δῆλον, ἐγὼ δ' ἔχω οὐδ' ἄλλις ὄξος.

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

τοιγὰρ τὰ πρὸ θυρᾶν μοι ἀπὸ σπόρῳ ἄσκαλα  
πάντα.

ΜΙΛΩΝ

τίς δέ τυ τᾶν παίδων λυμαίνεται;

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

ὦ Πολυβῶτα,  
ὦ πρᾶν ἀμώντεςσι παρ' Ἴπποκίωνι ποταύλει.

ΜΙΛΩΝ

εὔρε θεὸς τὸν ἀλιτρόν· ἔχεις πάλαι ὦν ἐπεθύμεις.  
μάντις τοι τὰν νύκτα χροίξειθ' ἅ καλαμαία.

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

μωμᾶσθαί μ' ἄρχῃ τύ τυφλὸς δ' οὐκ αὐτὸς ὁ  
Πλούτος,  
ἀλλὰ καὶ ὠφρόντιστος Ἴερως. μὴ δὴ μέγα μυθεῦ.

ΜΙΛΩΝ

οὐ μέγα μυθεῦμαι· τὸ μόνον κατάβαλλε τὸ λᾶον,  
καί τι κόρας φιλικὸν μέλος ἀμβάλευ. ἄδιον οὕτως  
ἐργαξῇ· καὶ μὰν πρότερόν ποκα μουσικὸς ἦσθα.

ΒΟΥΚΑΙΟΣ

Μῶσαι Πιερίδες, συναείσατε τὰν ῥαδινάν μοι  
παῖδ'· ὦν γάρ χ' ἄψησθε θεαί, καλὰ πάντα ποεῖτε.

## THEOCRITUS X, 13-25

MILON

Then 'tis manifest thou draw'st thy wine from the  
hogshead the while I am short of vinegai-water.

BUCAEUS

—And so it is that the land at my very door since  
was seed-time hath not felt hoe

MILON

And which o' the lasses is thy undoing ?

BUCAEUS

'Tis Polybotas' daughter, she that was at Hippo-  
cion's t'other day a-piping to the reapers.

MILON

Lord ! thy sin hath found thee out. Thou'dst  
wished and wished, and now, 'faith, thou'st won.  
There'll be a locust to clasp thee all night long.

BUCAEUS

Thou bid'st fair to play me fault-finder. But  
there's blind men in heaven besides Him o' the  
Money-bags, fool Cupid for one So prithee talk not  
so big.

MILON

I talk not big, not I, pray be content, go thou on  
wi' thy laying o' the field, and strike up a song o'  
love to thy leman 'Twill sweeten thy toil Marry,  
I know thou wast a singer once

BUCAEUS (*sings*)

Pierian Muses, join with me a slender lass to sing ;  
For all ye Ladies take in hand ye make a pretty  
thing

“Since was seed-time” a proverbial exaggeration ; for  
he has been in love only ten days, and this is harvest-time

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

Βομβύκα χαρίεσσα, Σύραν καλέοντί τυ πάντες,  
 ισχνὰν ἀλιόκαυστον, ἐγὼ δὲ μόνος μελίχλωρον,  
 καὶ τὸ ἶον μέλαν ἐστὶ καὶ ἁ γραπτὰ ὑάκινθος,  
 ἀλλ' ἔμπας ἐν τοῖς στεφάνοις τὰ πρᾶτα λέγονται.  
 ἅ αἶξ τὰν κύτισον, ὃ λύκος τὰν αἶγα διώκει,  
 ἅ γέρανος τῶροτρον, ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ τὴν μεμάνημαι.  
 αἶθε μοι ἦς, ὅσσα Κροῖσόν ποκα φαντὶ πεπᾶσθαι,  
 χρύσειο ἀμφότεροί κ' ἀνεκείμεθα τᾷ Ἀφροδίτῃ,  
 τὼς αὐλὼς μὲν ἔχοισα καὶ ἡ ῥόδον ἡ τύγα  
 μᾶλλον,  
 σχῆμα δ' ἐγὼ καὶ καινὰς ἐπ' ἀμφοτέροισιν  
 ἀμύκλας.

Βομβύκα χαρίεσσ', οἱ μὲν πόδες ἀστράγαλοί τευ  
 ἅ φωνὰ δὲ τρύχνος· τὸν μὰν τρόπον οὐκ ἔχω  
 εἰπεῖν.

### ΜΙΛΩΝ

ἡ καλὰς ἄμμε<sup>1</sup> ποῶν ἐλελάθει Βοῦκος ἀοιδάς.  
 ὥς εὖ τὰν ἰδέαν τᾷς ἀρμονίας ἐμέτρησεν.  
 ὦμοι τῷ πώγωνος, δν ἀλιθίως ἀνέφυσσα.  
 θᾶσαι δὴ καὶ ταῦτα τὰ τῷ θείῳ Λιτυέρσα.

Δύματερ πολύκαρπε πολύσταχυ, τοῦτο τὸ  
 λαῶν

<sup>1</sup> ἄμμε • mss also ἄμμι

## THEOCRITUS X, 26-42

Bombyca fair, to other folk you may a Gipsy be ;  
 Sunburnt and lean they call you ; you're honey-  
     brown to me.  
 Of flowers the violet's dark, and dark the lettered  
     flag-flower tall,  
 But when there's nosegays making they choose them  
     first of all.  
 Dame Goat pursues the clover, Gray Wolf doth goat  
     pursue,  
 Sir Stork pursues the plough ; and I—O ! I am wild  
     for you.  
 Would all old Croesus had were mine ! O then  
     we'd figured be  
 In good red gold for offerings rare before the Love-  
     Ladye,  
 You with your pipes, a rose in hand or apple, I bedight  
 Above with mantle fine, below, new buskins left and  
     right  
 Bombyca fair, your pretty feet are knucklebones,  
     and O !  
 Your voice is poppy, but your ways—they pass my  
     power to show.

### MILON

Marry, 'twas no 'prentice hand after all Mark  
 how cunningly he shaped his tune ! Alackaday,  
 what a dolt was I to get me a beard ! But come  
 hear this of the divine Lityerses : (sings)  
 Demeter, Queen of fruit and ear, bless O bless our  
     field ,

"Gipsy"· the Greek is 'Syrian.' "Knucklebones":  
 Bombyca pipes, dances, and sings by profession (cf. ll. 16  
 and 34) ; she flings her feet about as a player tosses the  
 knucklebones, lightly and easily, and her singing soothes the  
 listener like a narcotic "What a dolt was I". 'what a  
 thing it is to be young !'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εὐεργόν τ' εἶη καὶ κάρπιμον ὅττι μάλιστα.

σφίγγετ' ἀμαλλοδέται τὰ δράγματα, μὴ παριών

τις

εἶπη· 'σύκινοι ὦνδρες·<sup>1</sup> ἀπώλετο χοῦτος ὁ μισθός.'

ἐς βορέαν ἄνεμον τᾶς κόρθους ἅ τομὰ ὕμνιν

καὶ ζέφυρον<sup>2</sup> βλέπétω· πιαίνεται ὁ στάχυς οὕτως.

σίτον ἀλοιῶντας φεύγειν τὸ μεσαμβρινὸν ὕπνον·

ἐκ καλάμας ἄχυρον τελέθει τημόςδε μάλιστα.

ἄρχεσθαι δ' ἀμῶντας ἐγειρομένῳ κορυδαλλῷ,

καὶ λήγειν εὐδοντος, ἐλινύσαι δὲ τὸ καῦμα.

εὐκτὸς ὁ τῷ βατράχῳ, παῖδες, βίος· οὐ μελεδαίνει

τὸν τὸ πιεῖν ἐγχεῦντα· πάρεστι γὰρ ἄφθονον

αὐτῷ.

καλλίον'<sup>3</sup> ὦ 'πιμελητὰ φιλάργυρε τὸν φακὸν

ἔψειν·

μὴ 'πιτάμης τὰν χεῖρα καταπρίων τὸ κύμινον.

ταῦτα χρὴ μοχθεύοντας ἐν ἀλίῳ ἄνδρας αἰεδεῖν,

τὸν δὲ τεὸν Βουκαῖε πρέπει λιμηρὸν ἔρωτα

μυθίσδεν τᾶ ματρὶ κατ' εὐνὰν ὀρθρενοίσῃ.

<sup>1</sup> εἶπη Brunck mss εἶποι ὦνδρες E. mss ἄνδρες <sup>2</sup> καὶ E; ἐς βορέαν καὶ ζέφυρον means "Northwest," cf Modern Greek mss ἢ ζέφυρον <sup>3</sup> καλλίον' E, cf ll 44 mss κάλλιον

## THEOCRITUS X, 43-58

Grant our increase greatest be that toil therein may  
yield.

Grip tight your sheaves, good Binders all, or passers-  
by will say

'These be men of elder-wood, more wages thrown  
away.'

'Twixt Northwind and Westwind let straws endlong  
be laid;

The breeze runs up the hollow and the ear is  
plumper made

For Threshers, lads, the noontide nap's a nap beside  
the law,

For noontide's the best tide for making chaff of  
straw;

But Reapers they are up wi' the lark, and with the  
lark to bed;

To rest the heat o' the day stands Reapers in good  
stead.

And 'tis O to be a frog, my lads, and live aloof from  
care!

He needs no drawer to his drink; 'tis plenty every-  
where

Fie, fie, Sir Steward! better beans, an't please ye,  
another day,

Thou'lt cut thy finger, niggard, a-splitting caraway.

That's the sort o' song for such as work i' the sun,  
but that starveling love-ditty o' thine, Bucaeus,  
would make brave telling to thy mammy abed of a  
morning.

"Elder-wood". the Greek has "figwood" which was  
useless; cf Shaks *Merry Wives* 2 3 30 'My heart of elder.'  
"'Tis O to be a frog". the steward is stingy with the drink  
as with the lentils



## XI.—THE CYCLOPS

THEOCRITUS *offers a consolatio amoris to his friend the poet-physician Nicias of Miletus,*<sup>1</sup> *with whom he studied under the physician Erasistratus. After a brief introduction by way of stage-direction, he tells him the song the Cyclops sang to his love the sea-nymph Metrical and grammatical considerations make it probable that the poem was an early one; it may well be anterior to The Distaff. There is 'tragic irony' in the Cyclops' reference to his eye when speaking of singeing his beard, and also in his mention of the possible advent of a stranger from overseas.*

<sup>1</sup> For another interpretation see the Introduction.



# XI.—ΚΥΚΛΩΨ

Οὐδὲν ποττὸν ἔρωτα πεφύκει φάρμακον ἄλλο,  
 Νικία, οὐτ' ἔγχριστον, ἐμὴν δοκεῖ, οὐτ' ἐπίπαστον,  
 ἢ ταὶ Πιερίδες· κοῦφον δέ τι τοῦτο καὶ ἀδὺν  
 γίνετ' ἐπ' ἀνθρώποις, εὐρεῖν δ' οὐ ῥάδιόν ἐστι.  
 γινώσκειν δ' οἴμαί τυ καλῶς ἱατρὸν ἐόντα  
 καὶ ταῖς ἐννέα δὴ πεφιλημένον ἔξοχα Μοίσαις.  
 οὕτω γοῦν ράιστα διὰ γ' ὁ Κύκλωψ ὁ παρ' ἀμῖν,  
 ὠρχαῖος Πολύφαιμος, ὅκ' ἤρατο τᾶς Γαλατείας,  
 ἄρτι γενειάσδων περὶ τὸ στόμα τῶς κροτάφως τε.  
 ἤρατο δ' οὐ μάλοις οὐδὲ ῥόδῳ οὐδὲ κικίννοις, 10  
 ἀλλ' ὀρθαῖς μανίαις, ἀγείτο δὲ πάντα πάρεργα.  
 πολλάκι ταὶ ὅιες ποτὶ τῷ ὕλιον αὐταὶ ἀπήνθον  
 χλωρᾶς ἐκ βοτάνης· ὁ δὲ τὰν Γαλάτειαν αἰείδων  
 αὐτὸς ἐπ' αἰόνος κατετάκετο φυκιόεσσας  
 ἐξ αὐῶς, ἔχθιστον ἔχων ὑποκάρδιον ἔλκος,  
 Κύπριδος ἐκ μεγάλας τό οἱ ἥπατι πᾶξε βέλεμνον.  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ φάρμακον εὔρε, καθεζόμενος δ' ἐπὶ  
 πέτρας  
 ὑψηλᾶς ἐς πόντον ὁρῶν αἶεδε τοιαῦτα·

ὦ λευκὰ Γαλάτεια, τί τὸν φιλέοντ' ἀποβάλλῃ,  
 λευκοτέρα πακτᾶς ποτιδεῖν, ἀπαλωτέρα ἄρνός, 20  
 μόνσχῳ γαυροτέρα, φιαρωτέρα<sup>1</sup> ὄμφακος ὠμᾶς;

<sup>1</sup> Mss φιαρωτέρα Schol also σφιγγανωτέρα (i.e. σφιγγανω-  
 τέρα)

## XI —THE CYCLOPS

It seems there's no medicine for love, Nicias, neither salve nor plaster, but only the Pierian Maids. And a gentle medicine it is and sweet for to use upon the world, but very hard to find, as indeed one like you must know, being both physician and well-belov'd likewise of the Nine 'Twas this, at least, gave best comfort to my countryman the Cyclops, old Polyphemus, when he was first showing beard upon cheek and chin and Galatea was his love His love was no matter of apples, neither, nor of rose-buds nor locks of hair, but a flat frenzy which recked nought of all else Time and again his sheep would leave the fresh green pasturage and come back unbidden to fold, while their master must peak and pine alone upon the wrack-strown shore a-singing all the day long of Galatea, sick at heart of the spiteful wound the shaft of the great Cyprian had dealt him Nevertheless he found the medicine for it, and sitting him down upon an upstanding rock looked seawards and sang .

O Galatea fair and white, white as curds in whey,  
Dapper as lamb a-frisking, wanton as calf at play,  
And plump o' shape as ruddying grape, O why deny  
thy lover ?

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

φοιτῆς δαῦθ' <sup>1</sup> οὕτως, ὅκκα γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἔχῃ με,  
οἴχῃ δ' εὐθὺς ἰοῖς', ὅκκα γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἀνῆ με,  
φεύγεις δ' ὥσπερ οἷς πολλὸν λύκον ἀθρήσασα.  
ἡράσθην μὲν ἔγωγα τεοῦς κόρα, ἀνίκα πρᾶτον  
ἦνθες ἐμᾶ σὺν ματρὶ θέλοισ' ὑακίνθινα φύλλα  
ἐξ ὄρεος δρέψασθαι, ἐγὼ δ' ὁδὸν ἀγεμόνευον.  
παύσασθαι δ' ἐσιδὼν τυ καὶ ὕστερον οὐδ' ἔτι  
πα νῦν  
ἐκ τήνῳ δύνamai· τὴν δ' οὐ μέλει, οὐ μὰ Δι'  
οὐδέν.

γινώσκω χαρίεσσα κόρα, τίνος ὄνεκα φεύγεις· 30  
ὄνεκά μοι λασία μὲν ὀφρὺς ἐπὶ παντὶ μετώπῳ  
ἐξ ὧτος τέταται ποτὶ θῶτερον ὥς μία μακρά,  
εἷς δ' ὀφθαλμὸς ὑπεστι,<sup>2</sup> πλατεῖα δὲ ῥὺς ἐπὶ  
χείλει.  
ἀλλ' οὗτος τοιοῦτος ἐὼν βοτὰ χίλια βόσκω,  
κῆκ τούτων τὸ κράτιστον ἀμελγόμενος γάλα  
πίνω·

τυρὸς δ' οὐ λείπει μ' οὗτ' ἐν θέρει οὗτ' ἐν ὀπώρα,  
οὐ χειμῶνος ἄκρω· ταρσοὶ δ' ὑπεραχθεές αἰεὶ.  
συρίσδεν δ' ὥς οὗτις ἐπίσταμαι ὧδε Κυκλώπων,  
τίν τε φίλον γλυκύμαλον ἀμᾶ κῆμαυτὸν αἰίδω<sup>3</sup>  
πολλάκι νυκτὸς ἄωρί. τρέφω δέ τοι ἔνδεκα  
νεβρώς 40

πάσας μαννοφόρως<sup>4</sup> καὶ σκύμνως τέσσαρας  
ἄρκτων.

<sup>1</sup> δαῦθ' E "hither," cf. Alc. fr. 19 δεῦτε, *New Frag* 2, 6 δηῦτ', Sappho *New Frag* 1, 15 δαῦτ'· mss δ' αἰθ'· <sup>2</sup> ὑπεστι Winsem. mss ἔπεστι· <sup>3</sup> τε and αἰδω E, he could not play and sing at the same time: mss τδ and αἰδων <sup>4</sup> μαννοφόρως Schol. v. 1: mss ἀμνοφόρως

THEOCRITUS XI, 22-41

O soon enow thou'rt here, I trow, when sweet sleep  
comes me over,  
But up and gone when sleeping's done—O never  
flees so fast  
Ewe that doth spy gray wolf anigh, as thou when  
slumber's past  
My love of thee began, sweeting, when thou—I  
mind it well—  
Wast come a-pulling luces wi' my mother on the fell;  
I showed ye where to look for them, and from that  
hour to this  
I've loved ye true, but Lord ' to you my love as  
nothing is.  
O well I wot pretty maid, pretty maid, for why  
thou shun'st me so,  
One long shag eyebrow ear to ear my forehead o'er  
doth go,  
And but one eye beneath doth lie, and the nose  
stands wide on the lip;  
Yet be as I may, still this I say, I feed full a  
thousand sheep,  
And the milk to my hand's the best i' the land, and  
my cheese 'tis plenty alsó;  
Come summer mild, come winter wild, my cheese-  
racks ever o'erflow.  
And, for piping, none o' my kin hereby can pipe  
like my piping,  
And of thee and me, dear sweet-apple, in one song  
oft I sing,  
Often at dead of night. And O, there's gifts in store  
for thee,  
Eleven fawns, all white-collárs, and cosset bear's cubs  
four for thee

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἀλλ' ἀφίκευσο ποθ' ἄμέ, καὶ ἐξεῖς οὐδὲν ἔλασσον,  
τὰν γλαυκὰν δὲ θάλασσαν ἔα ποτὶ χέρσον ὄρεχ-  
θεῖν.

ἀδίου<sup>1</sup> ἐν τῶντρῳ παρ' ἐμὶν τὰν νύκτα διαξεῖς·  
ἐντὶ δάφναι τηνεῖ, ἐντὶ ῥαδιναὶ κυπάρισσοι,  
ἔστι μέλας κισσός, ἔστ' ἄμπελος ἃ γλυκύκαρ-  
πος,

ἔστι ψυχρὸν ὕδωρ, τό μοι ἃ πολυδένδρεος Αἴτνα  
λευκᾶς ἐκ χιόνος ποτὸν ἀμβρόσιον προΐητι.  
τίς κα τῶνδε θάλασσαν ἔχειν καὶ κύμαθ'<sup>2</sup> ἔλοιτο;  
αἰ δέ τοι αὐτὸς ἐγὼν δοκέω λασιώτερος ἦμεν,  
ἐντὶ δρυὸς ξύλα μοι καὶ ὑπὸ σποδῶ ἀκάματον  
πῦρ·

καϊόμενος δ' ὑπὸ τεύς καὶ τὰν ψυχὰν ἀνεχοίμαν  
καὶ τὸν ἐν' ὀφθαλμόν, τῷ μοι γλυκερώτερον  
οὐδέν.

ὦμοι, ὅτ' οὐκ ἔτεκέν μ' ἃ μάτηρ βράγχι' ἔχοντα,  
ὥς κατέδυν ποτὶ τὴν καὶ τὰν χέρα τεύς ἐφί-  
λησα,

αἰ μὴ τὸ στόμα λῆς, ἔφερον δέ τοι ἡ κρίνα  
λευκά

ἡ μάκων' ἀπαλὰν ἐρυθρὰ πλαταγώνι' ἔχοισαν.  
νῦν μὰν ὦ κόριον, νῦν αὖ τό γα νεῖν μασεῦμαι,<sup>3</sup>  
εἴ κα τίς σὺν ναὶ πλέων ξένος ὦδ' ἀφίκεται,  
ὥς εἰδῶ, τί πόχ' ἀδὺ κατοικεῖν τὸν βυθὸν ὕμμιν.

<sup>1</sup> ἀδίου' E. cf. 10 54: mss ἄδιον    <sup>2</sup> καὶ κύμαθ' Ahrens  
from Schol mss ἡ κύμ.    <sup>3</sup> αὖ τό γα νεῖν μασεῦμαι (i.e.  
μαθήσομαι, which occurs in the Scholiast's paraphrase) Ahr.  
mss αὐτὸ γα νεῖν μεμασεῦμαι (γε μαθεῦμαι)

58 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν θέρεος, τὰ δὲ γίνεται ἐν χειμῶνι,  
ᾧστ' οὐκ ἂν τοι ταῦτα φέρειν ἅμα πάντ' ἐδυνάσθην.

The reasons for rejecting these lines against the mss are too  
long to be given here See *Class Rev.*

THEOCRITUS XI, 42-62

O leave it be, the blue blue sea, to gasp an 't will  
o' the shore,  
And come ye away to me, to me; I'll lay ye'll find  
no ill store  
A sweeter night thou'lt pass i' the cave with me  
than away i' the brine;  
There's laurel and taper cypress, swart ivy and sweet-  
fruit vine,  
And for thy drinking the cool water woody Etna  
pours so free  
For my delight from his snow so white, and a  
heav'nly draught it be  
Now who would choose the sea and his waves, and a  
home like this forgo?  
But if so be the master o' t too shag to thy deem-  
ing show,  
There's wood in store, and on the floor a fire that  
smoulders still,  
And if thou would'st be burning, mayst burn my  
soul an thou will,  
Yea, and the dear'st of all my goods, my one dear  
eye O me!  
That I was not born with fins to be diving down to  
thee,  
To kiss, if not thy lips, at least thy hand, and give  
thee posies  
Of poppies trim with scarlet rim or snow-white  
winter-roses!  
And if a stranger a-shipboard come, e'en now, my  
little sweeting,  
E'en now to swim I'll learn of him, and then shall I  
be weeting  
Wherefore it be ye folk o' the sea are so lief to be  
living below

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἐξένθοις, Γαλάτεια, καὶ ἐξενθοῖσα λάθοιο  
 ὥσπερ ἐγὼν νῦν ὧδε καθήμενος οἴκαδ' ἀπενθεῖν,  
 ποιμαίνειν δ' ἐθέλοις σὺν ἐμῖν ἄμα καὶ γάλ' ἀμέλγειν  
 καὶ τυρὸν πᾶξαι τάμισον δριμεῖαν ἐνεῖσα.  
 ἃ μάτηρ ἀδικεῖ με μόνα, καὶ μέμφομαι αὐτᾶ·  
 οὐδὲν πῆποχ' ὅλως ποτὶ τὴν φίλον εἶπεν ὑπέρ  
 μευ,  
 καὶ ταῦτ' ἄμαρ ἐπ' ἄμαρ ὄρευσά με λεπτύνοντα.<sup>1</sup>  
 φασῶ<sup>2</sup> τὰν κεφαλὰν καὶ τὼς πόδας ἀμφοτέρως  
 μευ  
 σφύζειν, ὥς ἀνιαθῇ, ἐπεὶ κῆγὼν ἀνιῶμαι.

ὦ Κύκλωψ Κύκλωψ, πᾶ τὰς φρένας ἐκπεπό-  
 τασαι;  
 αἰκ<sup>3</sup> ἐνθὼν ταλάρως τε πλέκοις καὶ θαλλὸν  
 ἀμάσας  
 ταῖς ἄρνεσσι φέροις, τάχα κα πολὺ μᾶλλον ἔχοις  
 νῶν.  
 τὰν παρεοῖσαν ἄμελγε· τί τὸν φεύγοντα διώκεις;  
 εὐρησεῖς Γαλάτειαν ἱσως καὶ καλλίον' ἄλλαν.  
 πολλὰ συμπαῖσδεν με κόραι τὰν νύκτα κέλονται,  
 κιχλίζοντι δὲ πᾶσαι, ἐπεὶ κ' αὐταῖς ὑπακούσω.  
 δῆλον ὅτ' ἐν τᾷ γᾶ κῆγὼν τις φαίνομαι ἡμεν.

οὕτω τοι Πολύφαμος ἐποίμαινεν τὸν ἔρωτα  
 μουσίσδων, ῥᾶον δὲ διὰ γ' ἢ εἰ χρυσὸν ἔδωκεν.

<sup>1</sup> λεπτύνοντα Meineke mss λεπτὸν ἰόντα <sup>2</sup> Mss φασῶ or φλασῶ, Schol φασῶ <sup>3</sup> αἰκ (i e αἰ, cf οὐ οὐκ) Wil, cf Epicharmus and Oracle in Hdt. i 174 mss αἰκ'

## THEOCRITUS XI, 63-81

Come forth and away, my pretty fay, and when  
thou comest, O  
Forget, as he that sitteth here, thy ways again to go;  
Feed flock wi' me, draw milk wi' me, and if 't my  
darling please,  
Pour rennet tart the cuds to part and set the good  
white cheese  
'Tis all my mother's doing, she sore to blame hath  
bin;  
Never good word hath spoke you o' me, though she  
sees me waxing so thin  
I'll tell her of throbbing feet, I'll tell her of aching  
eyne;  
I am fain that misery be hers sith misery be mine.

O Cyclops, Cyclops, where be your wits gone flying?  
Up, fetch you loppings for your lambs, or go a withy-  
plyng,  
The wearner's oft the wiser man, and that there's no  
denying  
Milk the staying, leave the straying, chase not them  
that shy;  
Mayhap you'll find e'en sweeter Galateas by and by.  
There's many a jill says 'Come an you will and play  
all night wi' me,'  
And the laugh I hear when I give ear is soft and  
sweet as can be,  
E'en I, 'tis plain, be somebody, ashore, if not i' the sea.

Thus did Polyphemus tend his love-sickness with  
music, and got more comfort thereout than he  
could have had for any gold.

"Throbbing feet" headache and footache—the latter  
from waiting on the beloved's threshold—were conventional  
signs of being in love





## XII —THE BELOVED

*THE Greeks sometimes exalted friendship to a passion, and such a friendship doubtless inspired this fine poem. Theocritus acknowledges his indebtedness to the Ionian lyrists and elegists by using their dialect. The passage rendered here in verse contains what at first sight looks like a mere display of learning, but has simply this intention 'Our love will be famous among so remote a posterity that the very words for it will be matter for learned comment.'*

## XII.—ΑΙΤΗΣ

Ἦλυθες ὦ φίλε κοῦρε· τρίτη σὺν νυκτὶ καὶ ἡοῖ  
 ἦλυθες<sup>1</sup>. οἱ δὲ ποθεῦντες ἐν ἡματι γηράσκουσιν.  
 ὅσσον ἔαρ χειμῶνος, ὅσον μῆλον βραβίλοιο  
 ἦδιον, ὅσσον ὅις σφετέρης λασιωτέρη ἄρνός,  
 ὅσσον παρθενικὴ προφέρει τριγάμοιο γυναικός,  
 ὅσσον ἐλαφροτέρη μόσχου νεβρός, ὅσσον ἀηδὼν  
 συμπάντων λιγύφωνος ἀοιδοτάτη πετεηνῶν,  
 τόσσον ἔμ' εὐφρηνας σὺ φανείς, σκιερὴν δ' ὑπὸ  
 φηγὸν

ἡελίου φρύγοντος ὁδοιπóρος ἔδραμον ὥς τις.  
 εἴθ' ὁμαλοὶ πνεύσειαν ἐπ' ἀμφοτέροιιν<sup>2</sup> Ἐρωτες 10  
 νῶιν, ἐπεσσομένοις δὲ γενοίμεθα πᾶσιν ἀοιδή·

‘δίω<sup>3</sup> δὴ τινε τῷδε μετὰ προτέροισι<sup>4</sup> γενέσθην  
 φῶθ’, ὃ μὲν εἴσπνηλος, φαίη χ’ Ὀμυκλαιάζων,  
 τὸν δ’ ἕτερον<sup>5</sup> πάλιν, ὥς κεν ὁ Θεσσαλὸς εἴποι,  
 αἶτην.

ἀλλήλους δ’ ἐφίλησαν ἴσῳ ζυγῷ. ἦρα τότ’ ἦσαν  
 χρύσειοι πάλιν ἄνδρες, ὅτ’ ἀντεφίλησ’ ὁ φιλη-  
 θεΐς.’

<sup>1</sup> For punctuation cf. Sappho in Julian *Epist.* 59 p 379 Hercher <sup>2</sup> ἀμφοτέροιιν E: mss -οισιν <sup>3</sup> δίω Ahrens. mss and schol. δολίω <sup>4</sup> μετὰ προτέροισι Taylor from schol. mss μετ’ ἀμφοτέροισι <sup>5</sup> τὸν ἕτερον attracted for ὁ ἕτερος

## XII.—THE BELOVED

THOU'RT come, dear heart ; thou'rt come after two days and nights, albeit one will turn a lover gray. As spring is sweeter than winter, and pippin than damson-plum ; as mother-ewe is shaggier than her lambkin, and maiden more to be desired than a thrice-wed wife ; as the fawn is nimbler-footed than the calf, and the nightingale clearest-tongued of all the wingèd songsters , so am I gladdened above all at the sight of thee, and run to thee as a wayfarer runneth to the shady oak when the sun is burning hot And 'tis O that equal Loves might inspire thee and me, and we become this song and saying unto all them that follow after :—

*Here were two men of might  
The antique years among,  
The one Inspirant hight  
I' th' Amyclaeon tongue,  
The t'other Fere would be  
In speech of Thessalye ,  
Each lov'd each, even-peise .  
O other golden days,  
Whenas love-I love-you  
All men did hold for true '*

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο, πάτερ Κρονίδη, πέλοι, εἰ γάρ, ἀγήρῳ  
 ἀθάνατοι, γενεῆς δὲ διηκοσίησιν ἔπειτα  
 ἀγγείλειεν ἐμοὶ τις ἀνέξοδον εἰς Ἀχέροντα·  
 ‘ ἢ σὴ νῦν φιλότης καὶ τοῦ χαρίεντος αἵτεω 20  
 πᾶσι διὰ στόματος, μετὰ δ’ ἡιθέοισι μάλιστα.  
 ἀλλ’ ἦτοι τούτων μὲν ὑπέρτεροι Οὐρανίῳνες·  
 ἔσσονθ’<sup>1</sup> ὥς ἐθέλουσιν· ἐγὼ δέ σε τὸν καλὸν αἰνέων  
 ψεύδεα ῥινὸς ὑπερθευ ἀραιῆς οὐκ ἀναφύσω.  
 ἦν γὰρ καὶ τι δάκης τὸ μὲν ἀβλαβὲς εὐθύς  
 ἔθηκας,

διπλάσιον δ’ ὠνησας, ἔχων δ’ ἐπίμετρον ἀπῆλθον.

Νισαῖοι Μεγαρήες ἀριστεύοντες ἐρετμοῖς,  
 ὄλβιοι οἰκείοιτε, τὸν Ἀττικὸν ὥς περιάλλα  
 ξείνον ἐτιμήσασθε Διοκλέα τὸν φιλόπαιδα.  
 αἰεὶ οἱ περὶ τύμβον ἀολλέες εἴαρι πρῶτῳ 30  
 κοῦροι ἐριδμαίνουσι φιλήματος ἄκρα φέρεσθαι.  
 δς δέ κε προσμάξῃ γλυκερώτατα<sup>2</sup> χεῖλεσι χεῖλη,  
 βριθόμενος στεφάνοισιν ἔην ἐς μητέρ’ ἀπῆλθεν.  
 ὄλβιος, ὅστις παισὶ φιλήματα κεῖνα διαιτᾷ·  
 ἢ που τὸν χαροπὸν Γανυμήδεα πόλλ’ ἐπιβῶται  
 Λυδῇ ἴσον ἔχειν πέτρη στόμα, χρυσὸν ὁποίῃ  
 πεύθονται μὴ φαῦλος ἐτήτυμον ἀργυραμοιβοί.

<sup>1</sup> ἔσσονθ’ E, cf. ἔσσανμένων Thuc., ἔσαστο Pind. *Fr. Oxyrh.*  
 3 408, ἔσσαντο Euphorion 99, mss. ἔσσονθ’ <sup>2</sup> γλυκερώτατα  
 E, cf. 15, 139. mss. -τερα

## THEOCRITUS XII, 17-37

O would to thee, Father Zeus, and to you, unaging Host of Heaven, that when a hundred hundred years shall be passed away, one bring me word upon the prisoning bank of Acheron our love is yet upon every lip, upon the young men's most of all! Be that or no the People of Heaven shall stablsh as they will; for theirs is the dominion; now, when I sing thy praises, there shall no push-o'-leasing rise upon the tip of this tongue; for if e'er thou giv'st me torment, thou healest the wound out of hand, and I am better off than before, seeing I come away with over-measure.

Heaven rest you glad, Nisaeon masters o' the oar, for that you have done such exceeding honour unto an Attic stranger that was among you, to wit unto Diocles, about whose grave, so surely as Spring cometh round, your children vie in a kissing-match, and whosoever presseth lip sweetliest upon lip, cometh away to's mother loaden with garlands. Happy the justicer holdeth that count of kissing! God wot he prays beamy Ganymed, and prays indeed, to make his lips like the touchstones which show the money-changer whether the gold be gold or dross.

“Push-o'-leasing” in the Greek the tell-tale pimples, themselves called ‘lies,’ rise, not upon the tongue, but upon the tip of the nose      “Diocles” an Athenian who, while living in exile at Megara, died in battle to save the youth he loved



### XIII.—HYLAS

*tells his friend Nicias in epic shape the tale  
of Hylas, the beloved of Heracles If,  
le, the words 'as we seem to think' are a  
of saying 'as you seem to think,' the poem  
an answer to a friendly rebuke of the  
I, XXIX, and XXX.*



### XIII.—ΤΛΑΣ

Οὐχ ἄμῖν τὸν Ἑρωτα μόνοις ἔτεχ', ὥς ἔδο-  
κεῦμες<sup>1</sup>,

Νικία, ᾧτινι τοῦτο θεῶν ποκα τέκνον ἔγεντο·  
οὐχ ἄμῖν τὰ καλὰ πράτοις καλὰ φαίνεται ἡμεν,  
οἳ θνατοὶ πελόμεσθα τὸ δ' αὔριον οὐκ ἔσορῶμες·  
ἀλλὰ καὶ Ἀμφιτρύωνος ὁ χαλκεοκάρδιος υἱός,  
ὃς τὸν λῖν ὑπέμεινε τὸν ἄγριον, ἦρατο παιδός,  
τοῦ χαρίεντος Ἵτλα, τοῦ τὰν πλοκαμίδα φορεῦντος,  
καὶ νιν πάντ' ἐδίδαξε πατὴρ ὥσεί φίλον νιέα,  
ὅσσα μαθὼν ἀγαθὸς καὶ ἀοίδιμος αὐτὸς ἔγεντο·  
χωρὶς δ' οὐδέποκ' ἦς, οὔτ' εἰ μέσον ἄμαρ ἄροιτο<sup>2</sup>,  
οὐδ' ὅκχ' ἅ λεύκιππος ἀνατρέχοι<sup>3</sup> ἐς Διὸς Ἀώς,  
οὐδ' ὅπόκ' ὀρτάλιχοι μινυροὶ ποτὶ κοῖτον ὄροιεν<sup>4</sup>  
σεισαμένας πτερά ματρὸς ἐπ' αἰθαλόεντι πετεῦρφ,  
ὥς αὐτῷ κατὰ θυμὸν ὁ παῖς πεποναμένος εἶη,  
αὐτῷ<sup>5</sup> δ' εὖ ἔλκων ἐς ἀλαθινὸν ἄνδρ' ἀποβαίη.

ἄλλ' ὅτε τὸ χρύσειον ἔπλει μετὰ κῶας Ἰάσων  
Αἰσονίδας, οἳ δ' αὐτῷ ἀριστῆες συνέποντο  
πασᾶν ἐκ πολίων προλελεγμένοι, ὧν ὄφελός τι,

<sup>1</sup> ὥς ἔδοκεῦμες, like ἦν ἄρα, 'as it seems we think,' cf ὥς δοκεῖ ll. 2, ἄρα l 66 and 18 1, νῦ Bion 2 1 and *ergo* οι *igitur* Propert. 4. 6, l 8, 3. 5, Ovid *Trist* 3 2, 3 9, *Am* 2 7, and for the first person cf Pindar *P* 3 107 <sup>2</sup> ἄροιτο E, cf. l 12 mss ὄροιτο <sup>3</sup> ἀντρέχοι Schaefer mss -τρέχει <sup>4</sup> ὄροιεν E, cf Hes *Scut.* 437 mss ὀρφεῖν <sup>5</sup> αὐτῷ = αὐτόθεν, so schol

### XIII.—HYLAS

FROM what God soever sprung, Nicias, Love was not, as we seem to think, born for us alone, nor first unto us of mortal flesh that cannot see the morrow look things of beauty beautiful For Amphitryon's brazen-heart son that braved the roaring lion, he too once loved a lad, to wit the beauteous Hylas of the curly locks, and, even as father his son, had taught him all the lore that made himself a good man and brought him fame; and would never leave him, neither if Day had risen to the noon, nor when Dawn's white steeds first galloped up into the home of Zeus, nor yet when the twittering chickens went scurrying at the flapping of their mother's wings to their bed upon the smoky hen-roost This did he that he might have the lad fashioned to his mind, and that pulling a straight furrow from the outset the same might come to be a true man

Now when Jason son of Aeson was to go to fetch the Golden Fleece with his following of champions that were chosen of the best out of all the cities in

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἴκετο χῶ ταλαεργὸς ἀνὴρ ἐς ἀφνειὸν Ἴωλκόν,  
 Ἄλκμήνας υἱὸς Μιδεάτιδος ἡρώϊνας,  
 σὺν δ' αὐτῷ κατέβαινε· Ὀϊκὸς εὐεδρον ἐς Ἀργῶ,  
 αἵτις κυανεῶν οὐχ ἤψατο Σύνδρομάδων ναῦς,  
 ἀλλὰ διεξείξε, βαθὺν δ' εἰσέδραμε Φᾶσιν  
 αἰετὸς ὥς μέγα λαΐτμα· ἀφ' οὗ τόθι<sup>1</sup> χοιράδες ἔσταν.

ἄμμος δ' ἀντέλλοντι Πελειάδες, ἐσχατιαὶ δὲ  
 ἄρνα νέον βόσκοντι, τετραμμένον εἶαρος ἤδη,  
 τᾶμος ναυτιλίας μιμνήσκετο θεῖος ἄωτος  
 ἡρώων, κοίλαν δὲ καθιδρυθέντες ἐς Ἀργῶ  
 Ἑλλάσποντον ἴκοντο νότῳ τρίτον ἄμαρ ἀέντι,  
 εἴσω δ' ὄρμον ἔθεντο Προποντίδος, ἔνθα Κιανῶν  
 αὐλακας εὐρύνοντι βόες τρίβοντες ἄροτρα.  
 ἐκβάντες δ' ἐπὶ θίνα κατὰ ζυγὰ δαῖτα πένοντο  
 δειελινάν, πολλοὶ δὲ μίαν στορέσαντο χαμεύναν·  
 λειμῶν γάρ σφιν ἔκειτο, μέγα στιβάδεσσιν ὄνειρα,  
 ἔνθεν βούτομον ὄξυ βαθύν τ' ἐτάμοντο κύπειρον.

κῶχεθ' Ὀϊκὸς ὁ ξανθὸς ὕδωρ ἐπιδόρπιον οἴσων  
 αὐτῷ θ' Ἡρακλῆι καὶ Ἀστεμφεῖ Τελαμῶνι,  
 οἱ μίαν ἄμφω ἐταῖροι αἰεὶ δαίνυντο τράπεζαν,  
 χάλκεον ἄγγος ἔχων. τάχα δὲ κράναν ἐνόησεν  
 ἡμένῳ ἐν χώρῳ· περὶ δὲ θρύα πολλὰ πεφύκει,  
 κυανέον τε χελιδόνιον χλωρόν τ' ἀδίαντον  
 καὶ θάλλοντα σέλινα καὶ εἰλιτενῆς ἄγρωστις.  
 ὕδατι δ' ἐν μέσσῳ Νύμφαι χορὸν ἀρτίζοντο,  
 Νύμφαι ἀκοίμητοι, δειναὶ θεαὶ ἀγροιώταις,

<sup>1</sup> τόθι "there," E mss τότε

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

Εὐνίκα καὶ Μαλὶς ἔαρ θ' ὀρώσῃ Νύχεια.  
 ἦτοι ὁ κοῦρος ἐπεῖχε ποτῶ πολυχανδέα κρωσσὸν  
 βᾶναι ἐπειγόμενος· ταὶ δ' ἐν χερὶ πᾶσαι ἔφυσαν·  
 πασάων γὰρ ἔρως ἀπαλὰς φρένας ἐξεσόβησεν<sup>1</sup>  
 Ἀργεῖω ἐπὶ παιδί. κατήριπε δ' ἐς μέλαν ὕδωρ  
 ἄθρόος, ὡς ὅτε πυρσὸς ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ ἦριπεν ἀστὴρ  
 ἄθρόος ἐν πόντῳ, ναύταις δέ τις εἶπεν ἐταίροις  
 'κουφότερ' ὦ παῖδες ποιείσθ' ὄπλα· πλευστικὸς  
 ὦρος<sup>2</sup>.'

Νύμφαι μὲν σφετέροις ἐπὶ γούνασι κοῦρον ἔχοισαι  
 δακρυόεντ' ἀγανοῖσι παρεψύχοντ' ἐπέεσσιν.

Ἀμφιτρωνιάδας δὲ ταρασσόμενος περὶ παιδὶ  
 ὥχετο, Μαιωτιστὶ λαβὼν εὐκαμπέα τόξα  
 καὶ ῥόπαλον, τό οἱ αἰὲν ἐχάνδανε δεξιτερὰ χεῖρ.  
 τρὶς μὲν Ἰλᾶν ἄυσεν, ὅσον βαθὺς ἦρυγε λαιμός·  
 τρὶς δ' ἄρ' ὁ παῖς ὑπάκουσεν, ἀραιὰ δ' ἔκετο φωνὰ  
 ἐξ ὕδατος, παρεὼν δὲ μάλα σχεδὸν εἶδετο πόρρω.  
 νεβροῦ φθηγξαμένης τις ἐν οὖρεσιν ὠμοφάγος λῆς  
 ἐξ εὐνᾶς ἔσπευσεν ἐτοιμοτάταν ἐπὶ δαῖτα·  
 Ἡρακλῆς τοιοῦτος ἐν ἀτρίπτοισιν ἀκάνθαις  
 παῖδα ποθῶν δεδόνητο, πολὺν δ' ἐπελάμβανε χῶρον.  
 σχέτλιοι οἱ φιλέοντες, ἁλώμενος ὅσ' ἐμόγησεν  
 οὔρεα καὶ δρυμούς, τὰ δ' Ἰάσονος ὕστερα πάντ' ἦς.  
 ναῦς γέμεν<sup>3</sup> ἄρμεν' ἔχοισα μετάρσια τῶν παρεόντων,

<sup>1</sup> ἐξεσόβησεν Jacobs, cf 2 137. mss ἐξεφόβησεν or ἀμφε-  
 κάλυπεν <sup>2</sup> πλευστικός mss also πνευστικός ὦρος E  
 mss οὔρος <sup>3</sup> γέμεν Hermann· mss μέν

61 ὡς δ' ὀπὸτ' ἠυγένειος ἀπόπροθι λῆς ἐσακούσας  
 Omitted by the best ms and by the schol. ; for asyndetic  
 introduction of simile, cf 14, 39

### THEOCRITUS XIII, 45-67

country-folk, Eunice to wit and Malis and Nycheia with the springtime eyes And these, when the lad put forth the capacious pitcher in haste to dip it in, lo! with one accord they all clung fast to his arm, for that love of the young Argive had fluttered all their tender breasts And down he sank into the black water headlong, as when a falling star will sink headlong in the main and a mariner cry to his shipmates 'Hoist away, my lads; the breeze freshens.' Then took the Nymphs the weeping lad upon their knees and offered him comfort of gentle speech

Meantime the son of Amphytryon was grown troubled for the child, and gone forth with that bow of his that was bent Scythian-wise and the cudgel that was ever in the grasp of his right hand. Thrice cried he on Hylas as loud as his deep throttle could belch sound; thrice likewise did the child make answer, albeit his voice came thin from the water and he that was hard by seemed very far away. When a fawn cries in the hills, some ravening lion will speed from his lair to get him a meal so ready; and even so went Heracles wildly to and fro amid the pathless brake and covered much country because of his longing for the child. As lovers know no flinching, so endless was the toil of his wandering by wood and wold, and all Jason's business was but a by-end And all the while the ship stood tackle aloft, and so far as might be, laden, and the heroes

"Tackle aloft". with the sail hoisted but not yet turned to the wind, cf. *Alcaeus N.F.* 1. 15

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὐρόν<sup>1</sup> δ' ἡμίθεοι μεσονύκτιον ἐξεκάθαιρον  
 Ἑρακλῆα μένοντες. ὃ δ' αἶ πόδες ἄγον ἐχώρει  
 μαινόμενος· χαλεπὸς γὰρ ἔσω θεὸς ἦπαρ ἄμυσσεν.

οὕτω μὲν κάλλιστος Ὕλας μακάρων ἀριθμεῖται·  
 Ἑρακλέην δ' ἦρωες ἐκερτόμεον λιπονάυταν,  
 οὐνεκεν ἠρώησε τριακοντάζυγον Ἀργώ·  
 πεζᾷ δ' εἰς Κόλχους τε καὶ ἄξενον ἵκετο Φᾶσιν.

<sup>1</sup> οὐρόν E, cf. *Il* 2 153 · mss *ιστία* a correction of *οὔρον*

### THEOCRITUS XIII, 70-76

passed the night a-clearing of the channel, waiting upon Heracles But he alas ! was running whither-soever his feet might carry him, in a frenzy, the God did rend so cruelly the heart within him

Thus came fairest Hylas to be numbered of the Blest, and the heroes to gird at Heracles for a deserter because he wandered and left the good ship of the thirty thwarts Nevertheless he made the inhospitable land of the Colchians afoot.

“ The channel ” · the hollow in the sand down which the ship would be launched.





#### XIV.—THE LOVE OF CYNISCA

THE LOVE OF CYNISCA is a dialogue of common life. The scene is neither Egypt nor Sicily, perhaps Cos. The characters, middle-aged men, one of whom has been crossed in love, meet in the road, and in the ensuing conversation the lover tells the story of his quarrel with Cynisca, and ends with expressing his intention of going for a soldier abroad. His friend suggests that he should enlist in the army of Ptolemy, and gives that monarch a flattering testimonial, which betrays the hand of the rising poet who seeks for recognition at court

#### XIV —ΚΤΝΙΣΚΑΣ ΕΡΩΣ

ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

Χαίρειν πολλὰ τὸν ἄνδρα Θυνώνιχον.

ΘΥΩΝΙΚΟΣ

ἄλλα τοιαῦτα

Αἰσχίνα.

ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

ὥς χρόνιος.

ΘΥΩΝΙΚΟΣ

χρόνιος· τί δέ τοι τὸ μέλημα;

ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

πράσσομες οὐχ ὥς λῶστα Θυνώνιχε.

ΘΥΩΝΙΚΟΣ

ταῦτ' ἄρα λεπτός,

χὼ μύσταξ πολὺς οὖτος, ἀυσταλέοι δὲ κίκιννοι.

τοιούτος πρῶαν τις ἀφίκετο Πυθαγορικτάς,

ὠχρὸς κἀνυπόδητος· Ἀθηναῖος δ' ἔφατ' ἦμεν.

ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

ἦρατο μὰν καὶ τῆνος,

ΘΥΩΝΙΚΟΣ

ἐμὴν δοκεῖ, ὅπτῳ ἀλεύρω

ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

παῖσδεις ὡγάθ' ἔχων· ἐμέ δ' ἄ χαρίεσσα Κυνίσκα

ὕβρισδει· λασῶ δὲ μανεῖς ποκα, θρῖξ ἀνὰ

μέσσον.

## XIV —THE LOVE OF CYNISCA

AESCHINAS

A VERY good day to master Thyonichus.

THYONICHUS

To Aeschinas the same

AESCHINAS

Well met !

THYONICHUS

Well met it is ; but what ails ye ?

AESCHINAS

Luck's way's not my way, Thyonichus.

THYONICHUS

Ah ! that's for why thou'rt so lean and the hair o' thy lip so lank, and thy love-locks all-to-bemoiled. Thou'rt like one of your Pythagoreaners that came t'other day, pale-faced and never a shoe to's foot ; hailed from Athens, he said

AESCHINAS

And was he, too, in love ?

THYONICHUS

Aye, marry, was he—with a dish o' porridge

AESCHINAS

Thou'lt be ever at thy quips, good lad With me 'tis the pretty Cynisca, and she's playing the jade. And I doubt 'tis but a hair's-breadth betwixt me and a madman.

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## ΘΥΩΝΙΧΟΣ

τοιούτος μὲν αἰὲν τὸ φίλ' Αἰσχίνα, ἀσυχᾶ<sup>1</sup> ὀξύς, 10  
πάντ' ἐθέλων κατὰ καιρόν· ὁμῶς δ' εἶπον, τί τὸ  
καινόν;

## ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

Ὀργεῖος κῆγών καὶ ὁ Θεσσαλὸς ἵπποδιώκτας  
Ἄγρις<sup>2</sup> καὶ Κλεύνικος ἐπίνομος ὁ στρατιώτας  
ἐν χώρῳ παρ' ἐμίν. δύο μὲν κατέκοψα νεοσσῶς  
θηλάζοντά τε χοῖρον, ἀνῶξα δὲ Βίβλινον αὐτοῖς  
εὐώδη, τετόρων ἐτέων, σχεδὸν ὥς ἀπὸ λανῶ.  
βολβοτίνα,<sup>3</sup> κοχλίας ἐξαρέθη. ἥς πότος ἀδύς.

ἦδη δὲ προϊόντος, ἔδοξ' ἐπιχεῖσθαι ἄκρατον  
ᾧτινος ἤθελ' ἕκαστος· ἔδει μόνον ᾧτινος εἰπεῖν.  
ἄμμες μὲν φωνεῦντες ἐπίνομες, ὥς ἐδέδοκτο· 20  
ἂ δ' οὐδὲν παρεόντος ἐμεῦ. τίν' ἔχειν με δοκεῖς  
νῶν;

‘οὐ φθεγξῇ; λύκον εἶδες;’ ἔπαιξέ τις. ‘ὥς σοφός’  
εἶπε,  
κῆφᾶπτ’<sup>4</sup>. εὐμαρέως κεν ἀπ’ αὐτᾶς καὶ λύχον  
ἄψας.

ἔστι Λύκος, Λύκος ἐστί, Λάβα τῷ γείτονος υἱός,  
εὐμάκης, ἀπαλός, πολλοῖς δοκέων καλὸς ἦμεν  
τούτῳ τὸν κλύμενον κατετάκετο τήνον ἔρωτα.  
χάμῃν τοῦτο δι’ ὧτος ἔγεντό ποχ’ ἀσυχᾶ οὕτως·  
οὐ μὰν ἐξήταξα μάταν εἰς ἄνδρα γενειῶν.

ἦδη δ' ὦν πόσιος τοὶ τέσσαρες ἐν βάθει ἡμες,  
χὼ Λαρισαῖος ‘τὸν ἐμὸν λύκον’ ᾄδεν ἀπ’ ἀρχᾶς,· 30

<sup>1</sup> ἀσυχᾶ and 27 ποχ’ ἀσυχᾶ οὕτως. cf. Men. Her. 20.  
<sup>2</sup> Ἄγρις Wil mss Ἄγρις <sup>3</sup> βολβοτίνα E. cf. Athen 318e  
βολβοτίνη changed by editors to βολβιτίνη. mss βολβός τις  
from βολβόν τινα <sup>4</sup> κῆφᾶπτ(ο) schol. mss κῆφατ’

## THEOCRITUS XIV, 10-30

### THYONICHUS

'Faith, that's ever my Aeschinas; something hastier than might be; will have all his own way. But come, what is it?

### AESCHINAS

There was the Argive and I and Agis the jockey out o' Thessaly, and Cleonicus the man-at-arms a-drinking along o' me. I'd killed a pair of pullets, look you, and a sucking-pig, and broached 'em a hogshhead of Bibline fine and fragrant—four years in the cask, mark you, and yet, where new's best, as good as new—and on the board a cuttlefish and cockles to boot, i'faith, a jolly bout.

To't we went, and when things waxed warmer 'twas agreed we should toast every man his fancy, only we should give the name. But when we came to drink, the wench would not keep to the bond like the rest of us, for all I was there. How, think you, I liked of that? 'Wilt be mum?' says one, and in jest, 'Hast met a wolf?' 'O well said!' cries she, and falls a-blushing like fire; Lord! you might have lit a candle at her face. One Wolf there is, look you, master Wolf the son of neighbour Labas, one of your tall and sleek sort, in some folks' eyes a proper man. 'Twas he she made so brave a show of pining for out o' love. And I'd had wind o't too, mind you, softly, somehow, and so-to-speak, but there! I never raised inquiry for all my beard's so long.

Be that as it may, we four good men were well in, when he of Laiissa, like the mischief he was, fell

"Hast met a wolf?" the sight of a wolf was said proverbially to make a man dumb.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

Θεσσαλικόν τι μέλισμα, κακαὶ φρένες· ἅ δὲ  
Κυνίσκα

ἔκλαεν ἑξαπίνας θαλερώτερον ἢ παρὰ ματρὶ  
παρθένος ἑξαέτης κόλπῳ ἐπιθυμήσασα.  
τᾶμος ἐγών, τὸν ἴσαις τὴν Θυώνιχε, πύξ ἐπὶ κόρρας  
ἤλασα, καῖλλαν αὐθις. ἀνειρύσσασα δὲ πέπλῳ  
ἔξω ἀπώχετο θᾶσσον· ἔμὸν κακόν, οὐ τοι ἀρέσκω;  
ἄλλος τοι γλυκίων ὑποκόλπιος; ἄλλον ἰοῖσα  
θάλπε φίλον. τήνῃ τεὰ<sup>1</sup> δάκρυα μάλα ῥέοντι.  
μάστακα δοῖσα<sup>2</sup> τέκνοισιν ὑπωροφίοισι χελιδῶν  
ἄψορρον ταχινὰ πέτεται βίον ἄλλον ἀγείρειν·  
ὠκυτέρα μαλακᾶς ἀπὸ δίφρακος ἔδραμε τήνα  
ἰθὺ δι' ἀμφιθύρῳ καὶ δικλίδος, ἧ πόδες ἄγον·  
αἰνὸς θην λέγεται τις ἔβα καὶ ταῦρος<sup>3</sup> ἀν' ὕλαν.  
εἰκάδι<sup>4</sup> ταὶ δ' ὀκτώ, ταὶ δ' ἐννέα, ταὶ δὲ δέκ'

ἄλλαι,

σάμερον ἐνδεκάτα· ποτίθες δέκα, καὶ δύο<sup>5</sup> μῆνες,  
ἐξ ᾧ ἀπ' ἀλλάλων· οὐδ' εἰ Θρακιστὶ κέκαρμαι,  
οἶδε. Λύκος νῦν πάντα, Λύκῳ καὶ νυκτὸς ἀνῶκται·  
ἄμμες δ' οὔτε λόγῳ τινὸς ἄξιοι οὔτ' ἀριθμητοί,  
δύστηνοι Μεγαρῆες ἀτιμοτάτῃ ἐνὶ μοίρῃ.  
κεῖ μὲν ἀποστέρξαιμι, τὰ πάντα κεν εἰς δέον  
ἔρποι.

<sup>1</sup> τεὰ Ahrens mss τὰ or τὰ σά μάλα cf *Megara* 56  
<sup>2</sup> δοῖσα Schol. mss δ' οἶα <sup>3</sup> ἔβα καὶ ταῦρος some mss and  
Schol others ἔβακεν ταῦρος or ἔβα κένταυρος <sup>4</sup> εἰκάδι E.  
mss εἴκατι <sup>5</sup> δέκα καὶ δύο E. mss δύο καὶ δέκα or δύο καὶ  
δύο (following the corruption εἴκατι above) with the passage  
cf *Ar Nub* 1116

# THEOCRITUS XIV, 31-50

a-singing a Thessalian catch beginning 'My friend the Wolf'; whereupon Cynisca bursts out a-weeping and a-wailing like a six-year-old maiden in want of a lap. Then—you know me, Thyonichus,—I up and fetched her a clout o' the ear, and again a clout. Whereat she caughted up her skirts and was gone in a twink. 'Am I not good enough, my sweet mischief? Hast ever a better in thy lap? Go to, pack, and be clapping another. Yon's he thou weep'st apples over.' Now a swallow, mark you, that bringeth her young eaves-dwellers their pap, gives and is gone again to get her more; so quickly that piece was up from her cushions and off through door-place and through door, howsoever her feet would carry her. Aye, 'tis an old story how the bull went through the wood.

Let me see, 'twas the twentieth o' the month Eight, nine, ten; to-day's the eleventh. You've only to add ten days and 'twill be two months since we parted, and I may be Thracian-cropped for aught she knows. Ah! 'tis all Wolf nowadays, Wolf hath the door left open for him o' nights; as for me, I forsooth am altogether beside the reckoning, like miserable Megara, last i' the list. 'Tis true, if I would but take my love off the wench, all would go well. But alack! how can that be? When

"Add ten days and twill be two months". the meaning is 'in another week it will be the 20th of the next month but one', ten is a round number, for in Greece the weeks were of ten days, cf *σχεδόν* 10 12. The carouse took place, say, on the 20th April, in another 'week' it will be the 20th June. "Thracian-cropped": cf 1 4 the Thracian barbarians wore their hair long. "Megara" the Megarians, upon asking the oracle which was the finest people in Greece, were told that Thrace had fine horses, Sparta fine women, and Syracuse fine men, but Argos surpassed them all; and as for Megara, she was out of the reckoning altogether.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

νῦν δὲ πόθεν; μῦς, φαντὶ, Θυώνιχε, γεύμεθα  
πίσσας.

χῶτι τὸ φάρμακόν ἐστιν ἀμηχανέοντος ἔρωτος,  
οὐκ οἶδα. πλὰν Σῖμος ὁ τὰς ἐπιχάλκω ἐρασθεῖς  
ἐκπλεύσας ὑγιῆς ἐπανήνθ', ἐμὸς ἀλικιώτας.  
πλευσοῦμαι κήγῶν διαπόντιος· οὔτε κάκιστος  
οὔτε πρᾶτος ἴσως, ὁμαλὸς δέ τις ὁ στρατιώτας.

### ΘΥΩΝΙΧΟΣ

ὦφελε μὲν χωρεῖν κατὰ νῶν τεόν, ὦν ἐπεθύμεις  
Αἰσχίνα. εἰ δ' οὕτως ἄρα τοι δοκεῖ ὥστ' ἀποδαμεῖν,  
μισθοδότας Πτολεμαῖος ἐλευθέρῳ οἷος ἄριστος.

### ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑΣ

τᾶλλα δ' ἀνὴρ ποῖός τις ἐλευθέρῳ οἷος ἄριστος;

### ΘΥΩΝΙΧΟΣ

εὐγνώμων, φιλόμουσος, ἐρωτικός, εἰς ἄκρον ἀδύς,  
εἰδὼς τὸν φιλέοντα, τὸν οὐ φιλέοντ' ἔτι μᾶλλον,  
πολλοῖς πολλὰ διδούς, αἰτεῦμενος οὐκ ἀνανεύων,  
οἷα χρή βασιλῇ· αἰτεῖν δὲ δεῖ οὐκ ἐπὶ παντὶ  
Αἰσχίνα. ὥστ' εἴ τοι κατὰ δεξιὸν ἦμον ἀρέσκει  
λῶπος ἄκρον περονᾶσθαι, ἐπ' ἀμφοτέροις δὲ  
βεβακῶς

τολμασεῖς ἐπιόντα μένειν θρασὺν ἀσπιδιώταν,  
ᾧ τάχος εἰς Αἴγυπτον. ἀπὸ κροτάφων πελόμεσθα  
πάντες γηραλέοι, καὶ ἐπισχερῶ ἐς γένυν ἔρπει  
λευκαίνων ὁ χρόνος· ποιεῖν τι δεῖ, ἅς γόνυ χλωρόν.



## THEOCRITUS XIV, 51-70

mouse tastes pitch, Thyonichus—; and what may be the medicine for a love there's no getting away from, 'faith, I know not—save that Simus that fell in love, as the saying is, with Mistress Brassbound and went overseas, he came home whole; a mate of mine he was. Suppose I cross the water, like him; your soldier's life, as 'tis not maybe o' the highest, so is it not o' the lowest, but 'tis e'en as good as another

THYONICHUS

I would indeed thy desire had run smooth, Aeschinas. But if so be thy mind is made up to go thy ways abroad, I'll e'en tell thee the best paymaster a freeman can have; King Ptolemy

AESCHINAS

And what sort of man, pray, is this that is the best a freeman can have?

THYONICHUS

A kind heart, a man of parts, a true gallant, and the top o' good-fellowship; knows well the colour of a friend, and still better the look of a foe; like a true king, gives far and wide and says no man nay—albeit 'tis true one should not be for ever asking alms, Aeschinas (*in mock-heroic strain*) So an thou be'st minded to clasp the warrior's cloak about thee, and legs astride to abide the onset of the hardy foe-man, to Egypt with thee. To judge by our noddles we're all waxing old, and old Time comes us grizzling line by line down the cheek. We must fain be up and doing while there's sap in our legs.

“When mouse tastes pitch” the mouse that fell into the caldron of pitch was proverbial of those who find themselves in difficulties through their own folly. “Mistress Brass-bound”. contemporary slang for the soldier's shield.



## XV.—THE WOMEN AT THE ADONIS-FESTIVAL

*THE scene of this mime is Alexandria, and the chief characters are two fellow-countrywomen of the author. Gorgo, paying a morning call, finds Praxinoa, with her two-year-old child, superintending the spinning of her maids, and asks her to come with her to the Festival of Adonis at the palace of Ptolemy II. Praxinoa makes some demur, but at last washes and dresses and sallies forth with her visitor and their two maids. After sundry encounters in the crowded streets, they enter the palace, and soon after, the prima donna begins the Dirge—which is really a wedding-song containing a forecast of a dirge—with an address to the bride Aphrodite and a reference to the deification of the queen of Ptolemy I. The song describes the scene—the offerings displayed about the marriage-bed, the two canopies of greenery above it, the bedstead with its representation of the Rape of Ganymede, the coverlets which envelop the effigies of Adonis and Aphrodite, the image of the holy bridegroom himself—and ends with an anticipation of the choral dirge to be sung on the morrow at the funeral of Adonis.*

## XV.—ΣΤΡΑΚΟΣΙΑΙ Η ΑΔΩΝΙΑΖΟΤΣΑΙ

ΓΟΡΓΩ

Ἐνδοι Πραξινοά;

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

Γοργοῖ φίλα, ὡς χρόνῳ· ἔνδοι.  
θαυμ' ὅτι καὶ νῦν ἦνθες. ὄρη δίφρον Εὐνόα αὐτᾶ.  
ἔμβαλε καὶ ποτίκρανον.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

ἔχει κάλλιστα.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

καθίζεν.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

ὦ τᾶς ἀλεμάτω<sup>1</sup> ψυχᾶς· μόλις ὕμῃν ἐσώθην,  
Πραξινοά, πολλῶ μὲν ὄχλῳ, πολλῶν δὲ τεθρίπ-  
πων·

παντᾶ κρηπίδες, παντᾶ χλαμυδηφόροι ἄνδρες·  
ἀ δ' ὁδὸς ἄτρυτος· τὸ δ' ἐκαστάτῳ ὡς ἐναποικεῖς<sup>2</sup>.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

ταυθ' ὁ πάραρος τήνος· ἐπ' ἔσχατα γὰρ ἔλαβ'  
ἐνθὼν

ἰλεόν, οὐκ οἴκησιν, ὅπως μὴ γείτονες ὦμες  
ἀλλάλαις, ποτ' ἔριν, φθονερὸν κακόν, αἰὲν ὁμοῖος. 10

<sup>1</sup> ἀλεμάτω Stephanus : mss ἀδεμάτω (so Greg. Cor.), ἀδει-  
μά(ν)του, ἀδαμά(ν)του <sup>2</sup> ἐκαστάτῳ ὡς ἐναποικεῖς E, cf. l. 45  
τυτθὸν ὕσσον ἄπωθεν and ὡς 'where' l 13 mss ἐκαστέρῳ  
(ἐκαστοτέρῳ) ἔμ' ἀποικεῖς

## XV.—THE WOMEN AT THE ADONIS-FESTIVAL

GORG0 (*with her maid Eutychis at the door, as the maid Eunoa opens it*)

Praxinoa at home ?

PRAXINOA (*running forward*)

Dear Gorgo ! at last ! she *is* at home. I quite thought you'd forgotten me (*to the maid*) Here, Eunoa, a chair for the lady, and a cushion in it.

GORG0 (*refusing the cushion*)

No, thank you, really.

PRAXINOA

Do sit down

GORG0 (*sitting*)

O what a silly I was to come ! What with the crush and the horses, Praxinoa, I've scarcely got here alive. It's all big boots and people in uniform. And the street was never-ending, and you can't think how far your house is along it

PRAXINOA

That's my lunatic ; came and took one at the end of the world, and more an animal's den, too, than a place for a human being to live in, just to prevent you and me being neighbours, out of sheer spite, the jealous old wretch ! He's always like that

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΓΟΡΓΩ

μὴ λέγε τὸν τεὸν ἄνδρα, φίλα, Δίνωνα τοιαῦτα  
τῷ μικκῷ παρεόντος· ὄρη γύναι, ὥς ποθορῇ τυ.  
θάρσει Ζωπυρίον, γλυκερὸν τέκος· οὐ λέγει ἀπφῦν.<sup>1</sup>

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

αἰσθάνεται τὸ βρέφος, ναὶ τὰν πότνιαν.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

καλὸς ἀπφῦς.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

ἀπφῦς μὰν τήνους τὰ πρόαν—λέγομες δὲ πρόαν θην  
'πάππα,<sup>2</sup> νίτρον καὶ φύκος ἀπὸ σκανᾶς ἀγοράσ-  
δειν'—  
ῆνθε φέρων ἄλας ἄμμιν, ἀνὴρ τρισκαιδεκάπαχυς.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

χῶμὸς ταῦτᾱ<sup>3</sup> ἔχει, φθόρος ἀργυρίῳ, Διοκλείδας·  
ἐπταδράχμῳς κυνάδας, γραιᾶν ἀποτίλματα πηρᾶν,  
πέντε πόκῳς ἔλαβ' ἐχθές, ἅπαν ῥύπον, ἔργον ἐπ'  
ἔργῳ.

20

ἀλλ' ἴθι τῷμπέχονον καὶ τὰν περονατρίδα λάττει.  
βᾶμες τῷ βασιλῆος ἐς ἀφνειῷ Πτολεμαίῳ  
θασόμεναι τὸν Ἀδωνιν· ἀκούω χρῆμα καλόν τι  
κοσμεῖν τὰν βασίλισσαν.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

ἐν ὀλβίῳ ὀλβια πάντα.

<sup>1</sup> Ζωπύριον Buecheler mss -ίων λέγει· mss also λέγει  
<sup>2</sup> πάππα Wil from *Et Mag* mss πάντα ἀγοράσδειν  
Ahrens, baby-language, cf Theophr *Char* 7 10 mss  
ἀγοράσδων <sup>3</sup> ταῦτᾱ Ahrens mss ταῦτ' οἱ ταῦτά γ'

THEOCRITUS XV, 11-24

GORG0

My dear, pray don't call your good Dinon such names before Baby. See how he's staring at you. (*to the child*) It's all right, Zopy, my pet It's not dad-dad she's talking about

PRAXINOA

Upon my word, the child understands

GORG0

Nice dad-dad

PRAXINOA

And yet that dad-dad of his the other day—the other day, now, I tell him 'Daddy, get mother some soap and rouge from the shop,' and, would you believe it? back he came with a packet of salt, the great six feet of folly!

GORG0

Mne's just the same Diocleidas is a perfect spendthrift Yesterday he gave seven shillings apiece for mere bits of dog's hair, mere pluckings of old handbags, five of them, all filth, all work to be done over again. But come, my dear, get your cloak and gown. I want you to come with me (*grandly*) to call on our high and mighty Prince Ptolemy to see the Adonis I hear the Queen's getting up something quite splendid this year.

PRAXINOA (*hesitating*)

Fine folks, fine ways.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΓΟΡΓΩ

ὦν ἴδες, ὦν εἶπες καὶ ἰδοῖσα τὸ τῷ μὴ ἰδόντι.  
ἔρπειν ὦρα κ' εἴη.

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

ἀεργοῖς αἰὲν ἑορτά.

Εὐνόα, αἶρε τὸ νῆμα καὶ ἐς μέσον αἰνόθρυπτε  
θές πάλιν· αἱ γαλέαι μαλακῶς χρήζοντι καθεύ-  
δειν.

κινεῦ δῆ, φέρε θάσσον ὕδωρ. ὕδατος πρότερον  
δεῖ,

ἅ δὲ σμᾶμα<sup>1</sup> φέρει. δὸς ὅμως. μὴ δὴ πολὺ,  
λαστροί·

30

ἔγχει ὕδωρ. δύστανε, τί μεν τὸ χιτώνιον ἄρδεις;  
παύε· ὁκοῖα θεοῖς ἐδόκει, τοιαῦτα νένιμμαι.

ἂ κλᾶξ τᾶς μεγάλας πᾶ λάρνακος; ὦδε φέρ'  
αὐτάν.

### ΓΟΡΓΩ

Πραξινοά, μάλα τοι τὸ καταπτυχὲς ἐμπερόναμα  
τοῦτο πρέπει· λέγε μοι, πόσσω κατέβα τοι ἄφ'  
ἰστῶ;

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

μὴ μνάσης Γοργοῦ· πλέον ἀργυρίῳ καθαρῷ μνᾶν  
ἢ δύο· τοῖς δ' ἔργοις καὶ τὰν ψυχὰν ποτέθηκα.

<sup>1</sup> δὲ σμᾶμα G Hermann: mss δ' ἐς νᾶμα λαστροί E.  
Schwartz, cf Herodas 6 10 mss ἄπληστε



## THEOCRITUS XV, 25-37

GORG0

Yes; but sight seen 's tale told, you know, if you've been and other people haven't. It's time we were on the move

PRAKNOA (*still hesitating*)

It's always holidays with people who've nothing to do. (*suddenly making up her mind*) Here, Eunoa, you scratch-face, take up the spinning and put it away with the rest. Cats always *will* lie soft. Come, bestir yourself. Quick, some water! (*to Gorgo*) Water's wanted first, and she brings the soap (*to Eunoa*) Never mind; give it me (*E pours out the powdered soap*) Not all that, you wicked waste! Pour out the water. (*E washes her mistress's hands and face*) Oh, you wretch! What do you mean by wetting my bodice like that? That's enough (*to Gorgo*) I've got myself washed somehow, thank goodness (*to Eunoa*) Now where's the key of the big cupboard? Bring it here (*Takes out a Dorian pinner—a gown fastened with pins or brooches to the shoulders and reaching to the ground, with an overfold coming to the waist—and puts it on with Eunoa's aid over the inner garment with short sleeves which she wears indoors*)

GORG0 (*referring to the style of the overfold*)

Praxinoa, that full gathering suits you really well. Do tell me what you gave for the material

PRAKNOA

Don't speak of it, Gorgo; it was more than eight golden sovereigns, and I can tell you I put my very soul into making it up

"Wicked waste" the Greek is "pirate-vessel"

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΓΟΡΓΩ

ἀλλὰ κατὰ γνώμαν ἀπέβα τοι.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

τοῦτο κάλ' εἶπες.

τῶμπέχονον φέρε μοι καὶ τὰν θολίαν κατὰ  
κόσμον  
ἀμφίθες. οὐκ ἄξῳ τυ τέκνον. μορμῶ δάκνει  
ἵππος.

40

δάκρυ', ὅσσα θέλεις, χωλὸν δ' οὐ δεῖ τυ γενέσθαι.  
ἔρπωμες. Φρυγία, τὸν μικκὸν παῖσδε λαβοῖσα,  
τὰν κύν' ἔσω κάλεσον, τὰν αὐλείαν ἀπόκλαξον.

ὦ θεοί, ὅσος ὄχλος· πῶς καὶ πόκα τοῦτο  
περᾶσαι

χρὴ τὸ κακόν; μύρμακες ἀνάριθμοι καὶ ἄμετροι.  
πολλὰ τοι ὦ Πτολεμαῖε πεποίηται καλὰ ἔργα,  
ἐξ ὧ ἐν ἀθανάτοις ὁ τεκών· οὐδεὶς κακοεργὸς  
δαλείται τὸν ἰόντα παρέρπων Αἰγυπτιστί,  
οἷα πρὶν ἐξ ἀπάτας κεκροτημένοι ἄνδρες ἔπαισδον  
ἀλλάλοις ὁμαλοὶ κακὰ παίγνια πάντες ἐρειοί.<sup>1</sup>

50

ἀδίστα Γοργοῖ, τί γενοίμεθα; τοὶ πολεμισταὶ  
ἵπποι τῷ βασιλῆος. ἄνερ φίλε, μὴ με πατήσης.  
ὀρθὸς ἀνέστα ὁ πυρρός· ἴδ' ὡς ἄγριος. κυνοθαρσῆς  
Εὐνόα, οὐ φευξῇ; διαχρησεῖται τὸν ἄγοντα.  
ὠνάθην μεγάλως, ὅτι μοι τὸ βρέφος μένει ἔνδοι.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ἐρειοί· mss ἐριοί, explained by Hesych as καινοί  
<sup>2</sup> ἔνδοι Ahrens mss ἔνδον

## THEOCRITUS XV, 38-55

GORG0

Well, all I can say is, it's *most* successful

PRAXINOA

It's very good of you to say so (*to Eunoa*) Come, put on my cloak and hat for me, and mind you do it properly (*Eunoa puts her cloak about her head and shoulders and pins the straw sun-hat to it*). (*taking up the child*) No; I'm not going to take you, Baby. Horse-bogey bites little boys (*the child cries*) You may cry as much as you like, I'm not going to have you lamed for life. (*to Gorgo, giving the child to the nurse*) Come along. Take Baby and amuse him, Phrygia, and call the dog indoors and lock the front-door.

(*in the street*) Heavens, what a crowd! How we're to get through this awful crush and how long it's going to take us, I can't imagine Talk of an antheap! (*apostrophising*) I *must* say, you've done us many a good turn, my good Ptolemy, since your father went to heaven We have no villains sneaking up to murder us in the streets nowadays in the good old Egyptian style. They don't play those awful games now—the thorough-paced rogues, every one of them the same, all queer!

Gorgo dearest! what *shall* we do? The Royal Horse! Don't run me down, my good man That bay's rearing Look, what temper! Stand back. Eunoa, you reckless girl! He'll be the death of that man. Thank goodness I left Baby at home!

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΓΟΡΓΩ

θάρσει Πραξινοά· καὶ δὴ γεγενήμεθ' ὅπισθεν,  
τοὶ δ' ἔβαν ἐς χώραν.<sup>1</sup>

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

καὺτὰ συναγείρομαι ἤδη.  
ἵππον καὶ τὸν ψυχρὸν ὄφιν τὰ μάλιστα δεδοίκω  
ἐκ παιδός. σπεύδωμες· ὄχλος πολὺς ἄμμιν  
ἐπιρρεῖ.

60

ΓΟΡΓΩ

ἐξ αὐλᾶς ὦ μάτερ;

ΓΡΑΤΣ

ἐγὼν, τέκνα.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

εἴτα παρενθεῖν  
εὐμαρές;

ΓΡΑΤΣ

ἐς Τροίαν πειρώμενοι ἦνθον Ἀχαιοί,  
καλλίστα παίδων· πείρα θην πάντα τελεῖται.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

χρησμός ἀ πρεσβύτες ἀπώχετο θεσπίξασα.

ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

πάντα γυναῖκες ἴσαντι, καὶ ὡς Ζεὺς ἡγάγεθ' Ἥραν.

ΓΟΡΓΩ

θᾶσαι Πραξινοά, περὶ τὰς θύρας ὅσος ὄμιλος.

<sup>1</sup> Cf Xen *Cyr* 4 5 37, where ἀσύντακτα εἶναι is opposed to χώραν λαβεῖν, *ibid* 8 6 19 συναγείρειν στρατιάν, Plat *Prot* 328d ἐμαυτὸν ὥσπερ εἰ συναγείρας

THEOCRITUS XV, 56-65

GORG0

It's all right, Praxinoa We've got well behind them, you see. They're all where they ought to be, now.

PRAXINOΑ (*recovering*)

And fortunately I can say the same of my poor wits Ever since I was a girl, two things have frightened me more than anything else, a horrid slimy snake and a horse. Let's get on Here's ever such a crowd pouring after us

GORG0 (*to an Old Woman*)

Have you come from the palace, mother?

OLD WOMAN

Yes, my dears

GORG0

Then we can get there all right, can we?

OLD WOMAN

Trying took Troy, my pretty; don't they say where there's a will there's a way?

GORG0

That old lady gave us some oracles, didn't she?

PRAXINOΑ (*mock-sententiously*)

My dear, women know everything They know all about Zeus marrying Hera.

GORG0

Do look, Praxinoa; what a crowd there is at the door!

"I can say the same". the Greek has a pun on 'assembling' troops and 'collecting' one's wits "Gave us some oracles" i.e. her sententious remarks were about as useful as oracles generally are

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

θεσπέσιος. Γοργοῦ, δὸς τὰν χέρα μοι· λαβὲ καὶ τὴν  
 Εὐνόα Εὐτυχίδος· πότεχ' αὐτᾶ, μή τι πλαναθῆς.  
 πᾶσαι ἅμ' εἰσένθωμες· ἀπρίξ ἔχει Εὐνόα ἁμῶν.  
 οἴμοι δειλαία, δίχα μεν τὸ θερίστριον ἤδη  
 ἔσχισται, Γοργοῦ. ποττῶ Διός, εἴ τι γένοιο  
 εὐδαίμων ὠνθρῶπε, φυλάσσεο τῶμπέχονόν μεν.

70

### ΞΕΝΟΣ

οὐκ ἐπ' ἐμὴν μέν, ὅμως δὲ φυλαξεῦμαι.

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

ὄθεινθ' ὥσπερ ὕες.  
 ὄχλος ἄθρως·

### ΞΕΝΟΣ

θάρσει γύναι· ἐν καλῷ εἰμές.

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

κεῖς ὥρας κῆπεται, φίλ' ἀνδρῶν, ἐν καλῷ εἵης  
 ἅμμε περιστέλλων. χρηστῷ κοῖκτίρμονος ἀνδρός.  
 φλίβεται Εὐνόα ἅμμιν· ἄγ' ὦ δειλὰ τὴν βιάζει.

κάλλιστ'· 'ἔνδοι πᾶσαι' ὁ τὰν νυὸν εἶπ' ἀπο-  
 κλάξας.

### ΓΟΡΓΩ

Πραξινόα, πόταγ' ὦδε. τὰ ποικίλα πρᾶτον ἄθρη-  
 σον,  
 λεπτὰ καὶ ὡς χαρίεντα· θεῶν περονάματα φασεῖς,

## THEOCRITUS. XV, 66-79

PRAXINOA

Marvellous. Give me your arm, Gorgo; and you take hold of Eutychis' arm, Eunoa; and you hold on tight, Eutychis, or you'll be separated. We'll all go in together. Mind you keep hold of me, Eunoa. Oh dear, oh dear, Gorgo! my summer cloak's torn right in two. (*to a stranger*) For Heaven's sake, as you wish to be saved, mind my cloak, sir.

FIRST STRANGER

I really can't help what happens, but I'll do my best

PRAXINOA

The crowd's simply enormous; they're pushing like a drove of pigs.

FIRST STRANGER

Don't be alarmed, madam; we're all right.

PRAXINOA

You deserve to be all right to the end of your days, my dear sir, for the care you've been taking of us (*to Gorgo*) What a kind considerate man! Poor Eunoa's getting squeezed (*to Eunoa*) Push, you coward, can't you? (*they pass in*)

That's all right. All inside, as the bridegroom said when he shut the door

GORG0 (*referring, as they move forward towards the dais, to the draperies which hang between the pillars*)

Praxinoa, do come here. Before you do anything else I insist upon your looking at the embroideries. How delicate they are! and in such good taste! They're really hardly human, are they?

"Summer cloak" - the festival was probably held upon the longest day.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

πότνι' Ἀθαναία· ποῖαί σφ' ἐπόνασαν ἔριθοι, 80  
 ποῖοι ζωογράφοι τὰκριβέα γράμματ' ἔγραψαν.  
 ὥς ἔτυμ' ἐστάκαντι, καὶ ὥς ἔτυμ' ἐνδιενευντ'  
 ἔμψυχ', οὐκ ἐνυφαντά· σοφόν τοι<sup>1</sup> χρήμ' ἄνθρωπος.  
 αὐτὸς δ' ὥς θαητὸς ἐπ' ἀργυρέας κατὰκειται  
 ἄρμοι<sup>2</sup> πρᾶτον ἱουλον ἀπὸ κροτάφων κατα-  
 βάλλων—  
 ὁ τριφίλητος Ἀδωνις, ὃ κῆν Ἀχέροντι φιλεῖται.

### ΕΤΕΡΟΣ ΞΕΝΟΣ

παύσασθ' ὦ δύσταντοι, ἀνάνυτα κωτίλλοισαι  
 τρυγόνες· ἐκκναισεῦντι πλατειάσδοισαι ἅπαντα.

### ΠΡΑΞΙΝΟΑ

μᾶ, πόθεν ὄνθρωπος; τί δὲ τίν, εἰ κωτίλαι εἰμές;  
 πασάμενος ἐπίτασσε. Συρακοσίαις ἐπιτάσσεις. 90  
 ὥς εἰδῆς καὶ τοῦτο, Κορίνθιαι εἰμές ἄνωθεν,  
 ὥς καὶ ὁ Βελλεροφῶν· Πελοποννασιστὶ λαλεῦμες·  
 Δωρίσδεν δ' ἔξεστι δοκῶ τοῖς Δωριέεσσι.  
 μὴ φύη, Μελιτῶδες, ὃς ἀμῶν καρτερὸς εἴη,  
 πλὰν ἐνός. οὐκ ἀλέγω. μή μοι κενεὰν ἀπομάξης.

### ΓΟΡΓΩ

συγᾶ Πραξινοῦα· μέλλει τὸν Ἀδωνιν αἰίδειν  
 ἅ τᾶς Ἀργείας θυγάτηρ, πολυίδρις αἰοίδος,  
 ἅτις καὶ πέρυτιν<sup>3</sup> τὸν ἰάλεμον ἀρίστευσε.

<sup>1</sup> τοι schol to Soph *Ant* 343 mss τι <sup>2</sup> ἄρμοι Kaibel,  
 cf Callim *fr* 44, Ap Rhod I 972 mss κλισμῶ with  
 ἀργυρέας supply κλίνας <sup>3</sup> πέρυτιν Reiske. mss πέρχην or  
 σπέρχην



## THEOCRITUS XV, 80-98

### PRAXINOA

Huswife Athena' the weavers that made that material and the embroiderers who did that close detailed work are simply marvels How realistically the things all stand and move about in it! they're living! It *is* wonderful what people can do. And then the Holy Boy; how perfectly beautiful he looks lying on his silver couch, with the down of manhood just showing on his cheeks,—(*religioso*) the thrice-beloved Adonis, beloved even down below!

### SECOND STRANGER

Oh dear, oh dear, ladies! do stop that eternal cooing (*to the bystanders*) They'll weary me to death with their ah-ah-ah-ing

### PRAXINOA

My word! where *does* that person come from? What business is it of yours if we do coo? Buy your slaves before you order them about, pray If you *must* know, we're Corinthians by extraction, like Bellerophon himself What *we* talk's Peloponnesian I suppose Dorians may speak Doric, mayn't they? Persephone! let's have no more masters than the one we've got I shall do just as I like Pray don't waste your breath.

### GORG0

Be quiet, Praxinoa She's just going to begin the song, that Argive person's daughter, you know, the "accomplished vocalist" that was chosen to sing

"Don't waste your breath" the Greek has 'don't scrape the top of an empty measure' "Accomplished vocalist" the Greek phrase is Epic, perhaps a quotation from an advertisement or the like

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

φθεγξείται τι, σάφ' οἶδα, καλόν· διαθρύπτεται  
ἤδη.

## ΓΥΝΗ ΑΟΙΔΟΣ

Δέσποιον, ἃ Γολγῶς τε καὶ Ἰδάλιον ἐφίλησας, 100  
αἰπεινόν τ' Ἑρκα, χρυσωπίζοις<sup>1</sup> Ἀφροδίτα,  
οἶόν τοι τὸν Ἀδωνιν ἀπ' ἀενάω Ἀχέροντος  
μηγὶ δυωδεκάτῳ μαλακαίποδες<sup>2</sup> ἄγαγον ὦραι,  
βάρδισται μακάρων ὦραι φίλαι, ἀλλὰ ποθειναὶ  
ἔρχονται πάντεσσι βροτοῖς αἰεὶ τι φορεῖσαι.  
Κύπρι Διωναία, τὸ μὲν ἀθανάταν ἀπὸ θνατᾶς,  
ἀνθρώπων ὡς μῦθος, ἐποίησας Βερενίκαν  
ἀμβροσίαν ἐς στήθος ἀποστάξασα γυναικός·  
τὴν δὲ χαριζομένα, πολυώνυμε καὶ πολύναιε, 110  
ἃ Βερενικεΐα θυγάτηρ Ἑλένη εἰκυῖα  
Ἀρσινόα πάντεσσι καλοῖς ἀτιτάλλει Ἀδωνιν.  
πάρ οἱ<sup>3</sup> ὥρια κεῖται, ὅσα δρυὸς ἄκρα φέρονται,  
πὰρ δ' ἀπαλοὶ κάποι πεφυλαγμένοι ἐν ταλα-  
ρίσκοις  
ἀργυρέοις, Συρίῳ δὲ μύρῳ χρύσει' ἀλάβαστρα·  
εἶδата θ' ὅσσα γυναῖκες ἐπὶ πλαθάνῳ πονέονται  
ἄνθεα μίσγοισαι λευκῷ παντοῖα μαλεῖρῳ,  
ὅσσα τ' ἀπὸ γλυκερῷ μέλιτος τά τ' ἐν ὑγρῷ  
ἐλαίῳ,  
πάντ' αὐτῷ πετεηνὰ καὶ ἔρπετὰ τεῖδε πάρεστι.

<sup>1</sup> χρυσωπίζουσα Ludwig, cf καλλωπίζω and χρυσῶπις : mss χρυσῶ παίζουσα <sup>2</sup> Mss also μαλακαὶ πόδας <sup>3</sup> πὰρ οἱ E  
mss πὰρ μὲν οἱ

## THEOCRITUS XV, 99-118

the dirge *last year* You may be sure *she'll* give us something good. Look, she's making her bow.

### *The Dirge*

Lover of Golgi and Idaly and Eryx' steepy hold,  
O Lady Aphrodite with the face that beams like gold,  
Twelve months are sped and soft-footéd Heav'n's  
pretty laggards, see,

Bring o'er the never-tarrying stream Adonis back to  
thee

The Seasons, the Seasons, full slow they go and come,  
But some sweet thing for all they bring, and so they  
are welcome home.

O Cypris, Dion's daughter, of thee anealed, 'tis said,  
Our Queen that was born of woman is e'en immortal  
made;

And now, sweet Lady of many names, of many shrines  
Ladye,

Thy guerdon's giv'n; for the Queen's daughtér, as  
Helen fair to see,

Thy lad doth dight with all delight upon this holyday,  
For there's not a frut the orchard bears but is here  
for his hand to take,

And cresses trim all kept for him in many a silver tray,  
And Syrian balm in vials of gold, and O, there's  
every cake

That ever woman kneaded of bolted meal so fair  
With blossoms blent of every scent or oil or honey  
rare—

Here's all outlaid in semblance made of every bird  
and beast

"Last year" the day of the festival was apparently regarded as the first day of Adonis' six months' stay upon the earth, the other six being spent in Hades "Anealed": 'anointed'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

χλωρὰ δὲ σκιάδε μαλακῶ βρίθοντ' ἀννήθω<sup>1</sup>  
 δέδμανθ'· οἱ δέ τε κῶροι ὑπερπωτῶνται Ἑρωτες,  
 οἶοι ἀηδονιδῆες ἀεξομενᾶν ἐπὶ δένδρῳ<sup>2</sup>  
 πωτῶνται πτερύγων πειρώμενοι ὅζον ἀπ' ὅζω.  
 ὦ ἔβενος, ὦ χρυσός, ὦ ἐκ λευκῶ ἐλέφαντος  
 αἰετοὶ<sup>3</sup> οἶνοχόον Κρονίδε, Διὶ παῖδα φέροντες.  
 πορφύρεοι δὲ τάπητες ἄνω μαλακώτεροι ὕπνω·  
 ἂ Μίλατος ἐρεῖ χῶ τὰν Σαμίαν καταβόσκων  
 ἔστρωται κλίνα τῷδ' ὠνίδι τῷ καλῷ ἀμά·<sup>4</sup>  
 τὸν μὲν Κύπρις ἔχει, τὸν δ'<sup>5</sup> ὁ ῥοδόπαχυς  
 Ἄδωνις.

ὀκτωκαιδεκέτης ἡ ἐννεακαίδεχ' ὁ γαμβρός·  
 οὐ κεντεῖ τὸ φίλημ', ἔτι οἱ περὶ χεῖλεα πυρρά.  
 νῦν μὰν Κύπρις ἔχοισα τὸν αὐτὰς χαιρέτω  
 ἄνδρα·  
 ἄωθεν δ' ἄμμες νιν ἄμα δρόσῳ ἰθρόαι ἔξω  
 οἰσεῦμες ποτὶ κύματ' ἐπ' αἰὼνι πτύοντα,  
 λύσασαι δὲ κόμαν καὶ ἐπὶ σφυρὰ κόλπον ἀνεῖσαι  
 στήθεσι φαινομένοις λιγυρᾶς ἀρξεύμεθ'<sup>6</sup> αἰοιδᾶς·  
 ἔρπεις, ὦ φίλ' Ἄδωνι, καὶ ἐνθάδε κεῖς Ἀχέροντα

<sup>1</sup> χλωρὰ δὲ σκιάδε μαλακῶ βρίθοντ' (dual) ἀννήθω E, cf. l. 75, 18 5, and Jebb on Soph. O.C. 1676 mss χλωραὶ δὲ σκιάδες μαλακῶ βρίθοντες ἀννήθω <sup>2</sup> ἀεξομέναν (gen. pl.) ἐπὶ δένδρῳ Ahrens · mss -ων ἐπὶ δένδρων <sup>3</sup> αἰετοὶ mss also αἰετώ <sup>4</sup> ἀμά Ahrens · mss ἄλλα <sup>5</sup> τὸν μὲν and τὸν δ' E (there were two coverlets, but one wedding couch) mss τὰν μὲν and τὰν δ' <sup>6</sup> ἀρξεύμεθ' G Kiessling mss ἀρξώμεθ'

THEOCRITUS XV, 119-136

Two testers green they have plight ye, with dainty  
dill well dressed,  
Whereon, like puny nightingales that flit from bough  
to bough  
Trying their waxing wings to spread, the Love-babes  
hovering go  
How fair the ebony and the gold, the ivory white  
how fair,  
And eagles twain to Zeus on high bringing his cup-  
bearer '  
Aye, and the coverlets spread for ye are softer spread  
than sleep—  
Forsooth Miletus town may say, or the master of  
Samian sheep,  
“The bridal bed for Adonis spread of my own  
making is ;  
Cypris hath this for her wrapping, Adonis that for  
his.”

Of eighteen years or nineteen is turned the rose-  
limbed groom ;  
His pretty lip is smooth to sip, for it bears but flaxen  
bloom  
And now she's in her husband's arms, and so we'll  
say good-night,  
But to-morrow we'll come w' the dew, the dew, and  
take hands and bear him away  
Where plashing wave the shoon doth lave, and there  
with locks undight  
And bosoms bare all shining fair will raise this  
shrilling lay :—  
“ O sweet Adonis, none but thee of the children of  
Gods and men

“ Miletus, Samian sheep ”. Milesian and Samian wool was  
famous.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἡμιθέων, ὡς φαντί, μονώτατος. οὐτ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
τοῦτ' ἔπαθ', οὐτ' Αἴας ὁ μέγας, βαρυμάνιος ἦρως,  
οὐθ' Ἑκτωρ Ἑκάβας ὁ γεραίτατος<sup>1</sup> εἵκατι  
παίδων,

οὐ Πατροκλῆς, οὐ Πύρρος ἀπὸ Τροίας πάλιν  
ἐνθών,

οὐθ' οἱ ἔτι πρότερον Λαπίθαι καὶ Δευκαλίωνες,  
οὐ Πελοπηνιάδαι τε καὶ Ἀργεος ἄκρα Πελασγοί.  
ἴλαθι νῦν, φίλ' Ἀδωνι, καὶ ἐς νέον<sup>2</sup> εὐθυμήσαις  
καὶ νῦν ἦνθες Ἀδωνι, καὶ ὅκκ' ἀφίκη, φίλος  
ἥξεις.'

### ΓΟΡΓΩ

Πραξινοά, τὸ χρῆμα σοφώτατον ἁ θήλεια.<sup>3</sup>  
ὀλβία ὅσσα ἴσατι, πανολβία ὡς γλυκὺ φωνεῖ.  
ᾧρα ὅμως κεῖς οἶκον. ἀνάριστος Διοκλείδας.  
χῶνῆρ ὄξος ἅπαν, πεινᾶντι δὲ μηδὲ ποτένθης.  
χαῖρε Ἀδων ἀγαπατὲ καὶ ἐς χαίροντας ἀφίκευ.

<sup>1</sup> Mss also γεραίτερος    <sup>2</sup> Mss also νέωτα and νέω    <sup>3</sup> ἁ θήλεια  
= τὸ θῆλυ, there is the common confusion in 146 between  
general and particular

THEOCRITUS XV, 137-149

'Twixt overworld and underworld doth pass and pass  
agen ;  
That cannot Agamemnon, nor the Lord o' the  
Woeful Spleen,  
Nor the first of the twice-ten children that came of  
the Troyan queen,  
Nor Patroclus brave, nor Pyrrhus bold that home  
from the war did win,  
Nor none o' the kith o' the old Lapith nor of them  
of Deucalion's kin—  
E'en Pelops line lacks fate so fine, and Pelasgian  
Argos' pride.  
Adonis sweet, Adonis dear,  
Be gracious for another year ;  
Thou'rt welcome to thine own alway,  
And welcome we'll both cry to-day  
And next Adonis-tide."

GORG0

O Praxinoa ! what clever things we women are !  
I do envy her knowing all that, and still more having  
such a lovely voice But I must be getting back.  
It's Diocleidas' dinner-time, and that man's all  
pepper, I wouldn't advise anyone to come near him  
even, when he's kept waiting for his food Good-  
bye, Adonis darling ; and I only trust you may find  
us all thriving when you come next year

"The Lord o' the Woeful Spleen" Ajax "The first  
of the twice-ten children" Hector. "All pepper" in  
the Greek 'all vinegar'





# XVI —ΧΑΡΙΤΕΣ Η ΙΕΡΩΝ

Αἰεὶ τοῦτο Διὸς κούραις μέλει, αἰὲν ἀοιδοῖς,  
 ὑμνεῖν ἀθανάτους, ὑμνεῖν ἀγαθῶν κλέα ἀνδρῶν.  
 Μοῦσαι μὲν θεαὶ ἐντί, θεοὺς θεαὶ αἰέδοι· τι  
 ἄμμες δὲ βροτοὶ οἶδε, βροτοὺς βροτοὶ αἰδῶμεν.

τίς γὰρ τῶν ὁπόσοι γλαυκὰν ναίουσιν ὑπ' ἁῶ,  
 ἡμετέρας Χάριτας <sup>1</sup> πετάσας ὑποδέξεται οἶκῳ  
 ἀσπασίως, οὐδ' αὖθις ἀδωρήτους ἀποπέμψει,  
 αἰ δὲ σκυζόμεναι γυμνοῖς ποσὶν οἶκαδ' ἴασι,  
 πολλά με τωθάζοισαι, ὅτ' ἀλιθίαν ὁδὸν ἦνθον,  
 ὀκνηραὶ δὲ πάλιν κενεᾶς ἐν πυθμένι χηλοῦ  
 ψυχροῖς ἐν γονάτεσσι κάρη μίμνοντι βαλοῖσαι,  
 ἐνθ' αἰεὶ σφισιν ἔδραι, ἐπὴν ἄπρακτοὶ ἴκωνται,  
 τίς τῶν νῦν τοιόσδε; τίς εὖ εἰπόντα φιλήσει;  
 οὐκ οἶδ'. οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἄνδρες ἐπ' ἔργμασιν ὥς πάρος  
 ἐσθλοῖς

10

αἰνεῖσθαι σπεύδοντι, νενίκηνται δ' ὑπὸ κερδέων·  
 πᾶς δ' ὑπὸ κόλπῳ χεῖρας ἔχων πόθεν οἴσεται ἀθρεῖ  
 ἄργυρον, οὐδέ κεν ἰὸν ἀποτρίψας τινὶ δολίῃ,  
 ἀλλ' εὐθύς μυθεῖται· 'ἀπωτέρῳ ἢ γόνυ κνάμα·  
 αὐτῷ μοι τί γένοιτο <sup>2</sup>; θεοὶ τιμῶσιν ἀοιδούς.

<sup>1</sup> ἡμετέρας χάριτας schol. τὰ οἰκεῖα ποιήματα <sup>2</sup> τί  
 γένοιτο, E, cf Theophr. Char 14 2 λογισάμενος ταῖς ψήφοις  
 καὶ κεφάλαιον ποιήσας ἐρωτᾷ τὸν παρακαθημένον· τί γίνεται,  
 'what does it come to?' · mss τί or τι

## XVI.—THE CHARITES

'Tis ever the care of Zeus' daughters and ever of the poets to magnify the Immortal Gods and eke to magnify the achievements of great men. But the Muses are Gods, and being Gods do sing of Gods, while as for us we are men, and being men let us sing of men.

Now who of all that dwell beneath the gray dawn, say who, will open his door to receive my pretty Graces gladly, and not rather send them away empty-handed, so that they get them home frowning and barefoot, there to flee at me for sending them a fool's errand, there to shrink once again into the bottom of an empty press, and sinking their heads upon their chill knees to abide where they ever lodge when they return unsuccessful from abroad? Who, I say, in this present world will let them in, and who in the present days will love one that hath spoke him well? I cannot tell. The praise once sought for noble acts is sought no more; self reigns conqueror of every heart; and every man looks hand in pocket where he may get him silver; nay, he would not give another so much as the off-scrapings of the rust of it, but straightway cries "Charity begins at home. What comes thereof for

'Charity begins at home' in the Greek 'the shin lies further than the knee.'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τίς δέ κεν ἄλλου ἀκούσαι; ἄλλις πάντεσσιν" Ὀμηρος. 20  
οὗτος ἀοιδῶν λῶστος, ὃς ἐξ ἐμεῦ οἴσεται οὐδέν.'

δαιμόνιοι, τί δὲ κέρδος ὁ μυρίος ἔνδοθι χρυσὸς  
κείμενος; οὐχ ἄδε πλούτου φρονέουσιν ὄνασις,  
ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ψυχᾷ, τὸ δὲ πού τινι δοῦναι ἀοιδῶν  
πολλοὺς<sup>1</sup> εὔ ἔρξαι παῶν, πολλοὺς δὲ καὶ ἄλλων  
ἀνθρώπων, αἰεὶ δὲ θεοῖς ἐπιβώμια ῥέζειν,  
μηδὲ ξεινοδόκον κακὸν ἔμμεναι, ἀλλὰ τραπέζᾳ  
μειλίξαντ' ἀποπέμψαι, ἐπὴν ἐθέλωντι<sup>2</sup> νέεσθαι,  
Μουσάων δὲ μάλιστα τίειν ἱερὸς ὑποφήτας,  
ὄφρα καὶ εἰν' Αἶδαο κεκρυμμένος ἐσθλὸς ἀκούσῃς, 30  
μηδ' ἄκλεῆς μύρηαι ἐπὶ ψυχροῦ Ἀχέροντος,  
ὥσεί τις μακέλα τετυλωμένος ἔνδοθι χεῖρας  
ἄχῃν ἐκ πατέρων πενίαν ἀκτήμονα κλαίων.

πολλοὶ ἐν' Ἀντιόχοιο δόμοις καὶ ἄνακτος Ἀλεῦα  
ἄρμαλιὰν ἔμμηνον ἐμετρήσαντο πενέσται·  
πολλοὶ δὲ Σκοπάδαισιν ἐλαυνόμενοι ποτὶ σακοῦς  
μόσχοι σὺν κερααῖσιν ἐμυκήσαντο βόεσσι,  
μυρία δ' ἅμ πεδίον Κραννώνιον ἐνδιάασκον  
ποιμένες ἔκκριτα μῆλα φιλοξείνοισι Κρεώνδαις·  
ἀλλ' οὐ σφιν τῶν ἡδος, ἐπεὶ γλυκὴν ἐξεκένωσαν 40  
θυμὸν ἐς εὐρείαν σχεδίαν στυγνοῖο γέροντος,<sup>3</sup>  
ἄμναστοι δὲ τὰ πολλὰ καὶ ὄλβια τῆνα λιπόντες

<sup>1</sup> πολλοὺς Wil mss πολλοὺς δ' <sup>2</sup> Mss ἐθέλωντι  
<sup>3</sup> στυγνοῖο γέροντος Hemsterhuys from Propert. 3 18 24:  
mss στυγνοῦ ἀχέροντος

## THEOCRITUS XVI, 20-42

me? 'Tis the Gods that honour poets    Homer is  
enough for all    Him rank I best of poets, who of  
me shall get nothing."

Poor simple fools! what profits it a man that he  
have thousands of gold laid by? To the wise the  
enjoyment of riches is not that, but rather to give  
first somewhat to his own soul, and then something,  
methinks, to one of the poets; to wit, it is first to  
do much good as well to other men as to his  
kinsfolk, to make offering of sacrifice unceasingly  
upon the altars of the Gods, and, like one hospitably  
minded, to send his guests, when go they will,  
kindly entreated away, and secondly, and more  
than all, it is to bestow honour upon the holy  
interpreters of the Muses, that so you may rather  
be well spoken of even when you lie hid in Death,  
than, like some horny-handed delving son of a poor  
father bewailing his empty penuity, make your moan  
beside chill Acheron's brink without either name or  
fame

Many indeed were the bondmen earned their  
monthly meed in the houses of Antiochus and King  
Aleuas, many the calves that went lowing with  
the horned kine home to the byres of the Scopads,  
and ten thousand were the fine sheep that the  
shepherds of the plain of Crannon watched all  
night for the hospitable Creondae; but once all the  
sweet wine of their life was in the great cup, once  
they were embarked in the barge of the old man  
loathsome, the joyance and pleasure of those things  
was theirs no more. and though they left behind

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

δειλοῖς ἐν νεκύεσσι μακροὺς αἰῶνας ἔκειντο,  
εἰ μὴ θεῖος ἀοιδὸς ὁ Κήιος αἰόλα φωνέων  
βάρβιτον ἐς πολύχορδον ἐν ἀνδράσι θῆκ' ὄνο-  
μαστοῦς

ὀπλοτέροις, τιμᾶς δὲ καὶ ὠκέες ἔλλαχον ἵπποι,  
οἳ σφισιν ἐξ ἱερῶν στεφανηφόροι ἦνθον ἀγώνων.

τίς δ' ἂν ἀριστῆας Λυκίων ποτέ, τίς κομόωντας  
Πριαμίδας ἢ θῆλυν ἀπὸ χροιῆς Κύκνον ἔγνω,  
εἰ μὴ φυλόπιδας προτέρων ὕμνησαν ἀοιδοί; 50  
οὐδ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἑκατόν τε καὶ εἴκοσι μῆνας ἀλαθεῖς  
πάντας ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους, Ἀΐδαν τ' εἰς ἔσχατον ἐνθῶν  
ζῶδς καὶ σπήλυγγα φυγῶν ὀλοοῖο Κύκλωπος  
δηναιὸν κλέος ἔσχευ, ἐσιγάθη δ' ἂν ὑφορβὸς  
Εὐμαιὸς καὶ βουσι Φιλοίτιος ἀμφ' ἀγελαίαις  
ἔργον ἔχων, αὐτός τε περίσπλαγχνος Λαέρτης,  
εἰ μὴ σφεας ὤνασαν Ἰάονος ἀνδρὸς ἀοιδαί.

ἐκ Μοισᾶν ἀγαθὸν κλέος ἔρχεται ἀνθρώποισι,  
χρήματα δὲ ζῶντες ἀμαλδύνουσι θανόντων.  
ἀλλ' ἴσος γὰρ ὁ μόχθος ἐπ' ἄόνι κύματα μετρεῖν, 60  
ὅσσ' ἄνεμος χέρσονδε κατὰ<sup>1</sup> γλαυκᾶς ἀλὸς ὠθεῖ,  
ἢ ὕδατι νίξειν θολερὰν διαειδέει πλύνθον,  
καὶ φιλοκερδείᾳ βεβλαμμένον ἄνδρα παρειπεῖν.<sup>2</sup>  
χαιρέτω ὅστις τοῖος, ἀνάρριθμος δέ οἱ εἴη  
ἄργυρος, αἰεὶ δὲ πλεόνων ἔχοι ἱμερος αὐτόν.  
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τιμάν τε καὶ ἀνθρώπων φιλότατα  
πολλῶν ἡμιόνων τε καὶ ἵππων πρόσθεν ἐλοίμαν.

<sup>1</sup> κατὰ Buecheler · mss μετὰ  
παρελθεῖν

<sup>2</sup> παρειπεῖν mss also

## THEOCRITUS XVI, 43-67

them all that great and noble wealth, they had lain among the vile dead long ages unremembered, had not the great Ceian cried sweet varied lays to the strings and famed them in posterity, and had not the coursers that came home to them victorious out of the Games achieved the honour and glory which called the poet to his task.

Then too the lords of the old Lycians, then the long-haired children of Priam or that Cycnus that was wan as a woman,—say who had known aught of them, had not poets hymned the battle-cries of an elder day? Moreover Odysseus had wandered his hundred months and twenty through all the world, come to uttermost Hades alive, and gone safe from out the cave of the fell Cyclops, and then had never enjoyed the long and lasting glory of it all, and as well great-heart Laertes himself as Eumaeus the hog-ward and Philoetius the keeper of herded kine, all alike had been under silence had it not profited them of the lays of a man of Ionia

Yes; good fame men may get of the Muses, but riches be wasted of their posterity after they are dead. But seeing one may as well strive to wash clean in clear water a sun-dried brick, as well stand on the beach and number the waves driven shoreward of the wind from the blue sea, as seek to win by words one whose heart is wounded with the love of gain, I bid all such a very good day, and wish them silver beyond counting and long life to their craving for more. For myself, I would rather the esteem and friendship of my fellow-men than hundreds of mules and horses.

“The great Ceian” Simonides      “A man of Ionia”  
Homer      “Sun-dried brick” when wetted this becomes  
clay again

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

δίζημαι δ', ὅτινι θνατῶν κεχαρισμένος ἔνθω  
 σὺν Μοῖσαις· χαλεπαὶ γὰρ ὁδοὶ τελέθουσιν αἰδοῖς  
 κουράων ἀπάνευθε Διὸς μέγα βουλεύοντος. 70

οὐπω μῆνας ἄγων ἔκαμ' οὐρανὸς οὐδ' ἐνιαυτούς·  
 πολλοὶ κινήσουσιν ἔτι τροχὸν ἄματος<sup>1</sup> ἵπποι.  
 ἔσσεται οὗτος ἀνὴρ, ὃς ἐμεῦ κεχρήσεται αἰδοῦ  
 ῥέξας ἢ Ἀχιλεὺς ὅσσον μέγας ἢ βαρὺς Αἴας  
 ἐν πεδίῳ Σιμόεντος, ὅθι Φρυγὸς ἠρίον Ἴλου.

ἤδη νῦν Φοίνικες ὑπ' ἀελίφ δύνοντι  
 οἰκεῦντες Λιλύβας<sup>2</sup> ἄκρον σφυρὸν ἐρρίγασιν·  
 ἤδη βαστάζουσι Συρακόσιοι μέσα δοῦρα  
 ἀχθόμενοι σακέεσσι βραχίονας ἰτεῖνοισιν·  
 ἐν δ' αὐτοῖς Ἰέρων προτέροις ἴσος ἠρώεσσι 80  
 ζώννυται, ἵππειαι δὲ κόρυν σκιάουσιν<sup>3</sup> ἔθειραι.

αἱ γὰρ Ζεῦ κύδιστε πάτερ καὶ πότνι' Ἀθάνᾳ  
 κώρα θ', ἢ σὺν ματρὶ πολυκλάρων Ἐφυραίων  
 εἴληχας μέγα ἄστνυ παρ' ὕδασι Λυσιμελείας,  
 ἐχθροὺς ἐκ νάσοιο κακαὶ πέμψειαν ἀνάγκαι  
 Σαρδόνιον κατὰ κῦμα φίλων μόρον ἀγγέλλοντας  
 τέκνοις ἡδ' ἀλόχοισιν ἀριθμητοὺς ἀπὸ πολλῶν·  
 ἄστυα δὲ προτέροισι πάλιν ναίοιτο πολίταις,  
 δυσμενέων ὅσα χεῖρες ἐλωβήσαντο κατ' ἄκρας,  
 ἀγροὶ δ' ἐργάζονται τεθαλότες,<sup>4</sup> αἱ δ' ἀνάριθμοι 90  
 μάλων χιλιάδες βοτάνῃ διαπιανθεῖσαι  
 ἄμ πεδίου βλαχῶντο, βόες δ' ἀγελαδὸν ἐς αὖλιν

<sup>1</sup> ἄματος Wil mss ἄρματος <sup>2</sup> Λιλύβας Kuiper mss  
 Λιβύας <sup>3</sup> σκιάουσιν mss also σκεπάουσιν <sup>4</sup> ἀγροὶ δ'  
 ἐργάζονται (passive) τεθαλότες E : mss ἀγροὺς δ' ἐργ τεθαλότας

## THEOCRITUS XVI, 68-92

And so now I am on my way to seek to whom in all the world I with the Muses may come and be welcome ;—with the Muses, for 'tis ill travelling for your poet if he have not with him the Daughters of the Great Counsellor. Not yet are the heavens wearied of bringing round the months nor the years ; many the horses yet will roll the wheel of the day ; and I shall yet find the man who therefore shall need me for his poet because he shall have done as doughtily as ever did great Achilles or dread Aias by the grave of Phrygian Ilus in Simoeis vale

For lo ! the Phœncian dweller in the foot of Lilybè in the west shudders already and shakes ; the Syracusan hath already his spear by the middle and his wicker targe upon his arm ; and there like one of the olden heroes stands Hiero girding his loins among his men, a horse-hair plume waving on his crest And I would to thee, renowned Father, and to thee, Lady Athena, I would to thee, Maiden who with thy Mother dost possess by Lysimeleia's side the great city of the rich Ephyreans, I would that evil necessities may clear our island of hostile folk and send them down the Sardinian wave with tidings of death to wives and children, a remnant easy to number of a mighty host ; and I pray that all the towns the hands of enemies have laid so utterly waste, may be inhabited again of their ancient peoples, and their fields laboured and made to bring forth abundantly, their lowlands filled with the bleating of fat flocks in their tens of thousands, and the twilight

“Lilybè” the western angle of Sicily, the promontory of Lilybaeum. The reference to the coming campaign against the Carthaginians dates the poem in the year 274. “The Maiden” : the maiden is Persephone, the mother Demeter, and the city Syracuse.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἐρχόμεναι σκνιφαῖον ἐπισπεύδοιεν ὀδίταν·  
 νειοὶ δ' ἐκπολέοιντο <sup>1</sup> ποτὶ σπόρον, ἀνίκα τέττιξ  
 ποιμένας ἐνδίους πεφυλαγμένος ὑψόθι δένδρων  
 ἀχεῖ ἐν ἀκρεμόνεσσιν· ἀράχνια δ' εἰς ὅπλ' ἀράχναι  
 λεπτὰ διαστάσαιντο, βοᾶς δ' ἔτι μηδ' ὄνομ' εἴη·  
 ὑψηλὸν δ' Ἰέρωνι κλέος φορέοιεν αἰοιοὶ  
 καὶ πόντου Σκυθικοῖο πέραν καὶ ὅθι πλατὺ τεῖχος  
 ἀσφάλτῳ δῆσασα Σεμίραμις ἐμβασίλευσεν.  
 εἰς μὲν ἐγώ, πολλοὺς δὲ Διὸς φιλέοντι καὶ ἄλλους  
 θυγατέρες, τοῖς πᾶσι μέλοι Σικελὰν Ἀρέθοισαν  
 ὑμνεῖν σὺν λαοῖσι καὶ αἰχμητὰν Ἰέρωνα.

100

ὦ Ἐτεόκλειοι Χάριτες θεαί, ὦ Μινύειον  
 Ὅρχομενὸν φιλέοισαι ἀπεχθόμενόν ποτε Θήβαις,  
 ἄκλητος μὲν ἔγωγε μένοιμί κεν, ἐς δὲ καλεύντων  
 θαρσήςας Μοῖσαισι σὺν ἀμετέραισιν ἵοιμ' ἄν.<sup>2</sup>  
 καλλείψω δ' οὐδ' ὕμνε· τί γὰρ Χαρίτων ἀγαπατὸν  
 ἄνθρωποις ἀπάνευθεν; αἰὲ Χαρίτεσσιν ἄμ' εἶην.

<sup>1</sup> ἐκπολέοιντο E, 'be ploughed not here and there only but throughout the landscape' · mss ἐκπονέοιντο, ἐκπλέοιντο, ἐκτελέοιντο <sup>2</sup> ἵοιμ' ἄν Wil mss ἱοίμαν, ἰκοίμαν

"Eteocles" this early king of Orchomenus in Boeotia, was said to have been the first to offer sacrifice to the Graces, and Thebes had reason to hate the same Orchomenus because a

## THEOCRITUS XVI, 93-109

traveller warned to hasten his steps by the home-going of innumerable herds ; and I pray likewise that against the time when the cricket is fain to sing high in the twigs overhead because of the noontide-resting shepherds, against that time, the time of sowing, none of the fallows be left unturned of the plough, and as for the weapons of war, may spiders weave over them their slender webs, and of the war-cry the very name be forgot And the glory of Hiero, that may poets waft high both over the Scythian main and eke where Semiramis reigned within that broad wall she made with mortar of pitch ; and of these poets I am one, one of the many beloved of the daughters of Zeus, which are concerned all of them to magnify Sicilian Arethuse with her people and her mighty man of war.

O holy Graces first adored of Eteocles, O lovers of that Minyan Orchomenus which Thebes had cause to hate of old, as, if I be called not, I will abide at home, so, if I be called, I will take heart and go with our Muses to the house of any that call. And you shall come too ; for mortal man possesseth nothing desirable if he have not the Graces, and 'tis my prayer the Graces be with me evermore.

certain Erginus in revenge for the murder of his father had made Thebes tributary to Orchomenus , Theocritus hints at a wish that Hiero may follow the example of Eteocles in the matter of patronage, and Syracuse prevail over Carthage as Orchomenus did over Thebes "The Graces" he plays on two meanings of the word *Charites*, thanks or gratitude or favour, and the Graces who were the spirits of beauty and excellence and handmaidens of the Muses



## XVII —THE PANEGYRIC OF PTOLEMY

A PANEGYRIC of *Ptolemy II, Philadelphus*, who reigned from 285 to 247. The references to historical personages and events, coupled with a comparison with *XVI*, point to 273 as the date of the poem. The *Ptolemies*, like *Alexander*, traced their descent from *Heracles*. *Ptolemy I*, son of *Lagus*, was deified about 283, and his queen *Berenice* between 279 and 275.

## XVII—ΕΓΚΩΜΙΟΝ ΕΙΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΝ

Ἐκ Διὸς ἀρχώμεσθα καὶ ἐς Δία λήγετε Μοῖσαι,  
 ἀθανάτων τὸν ἄριστον ἐπὴν αἰδώμεθ' <sup>1</sup> αἰοιδαῖς·  
 ἀνδρῶν δ' αὖ Πτολεμαῖος ἐνὶ πρώτοισι λεγέσθω  
 καὶ πύματος καὶ μέσσος· ὃ γὰρ προφερέστατος  
 ἀνδρῶν.

ἥρωες, τοὶ πρόσθεν ἀφ' ἡμιθέων ἐγένοντο,  
 ῥέξαντες καλὰ ἔργα σοφῶν ἐκύρησαν αἰοιδῶν·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ Πτολεμαῖον ἐπιστάμενος καλὰ εἰπεῖν  
 ὑμνήσαιμ'. ὕμνοι δὲ καὶ ἀθανάτων γέρας αὐτῶν.

Ἰδαν ἐς πολύδενδρον ἀνὴρ ὑλατόμος ἐλθὼν  
 παπταίνει, παρεόντος ἄδην, πόθεν ἄρξεται ἔργου· 10  
 τί πρῶτον καταλέξω, ἐπεὶ πάρα μυρία εἰπεῖν,  
 οἷσι θεοὶ τὸν ἄριστον ἐτίμησαν βασιλῆων.

ἐκ πατέρων· οἷος μὲν ἔην τελέσαι μέγα ἔργον  
 Λαγείδας Πτολεμαῖος, ὅκα φρεσὶν ἐγκατάθοιτο  
 βουλάν, ἃν οὐκ ἄλλος ἀνὴρ οἷός τε νοῆσαι.  
 τήνον καὶ μακάρεσσι πατήρ ὁμότιμον ἔθηκεν  
 ἀθανάτοις, καὶ οἱ χρύσεος δόμος ἐν Διὸς οἴκῳ  
 δέδμηται· παρὰ δ' αὐτὸν Ἀλέξανδρος φίλα εἰδὼς  
 ἐδριάει, Πέρσαισι βαρὺς θεὸς αἰολομήτρας.

<sup>1</sup> αἰδώμεθ' E. mss αἰδῶμεν or ἄδωμεν

## XVII.—THE PANEGYRIC OF PTOLEMY

WITH Zeus let us begin, Muses, and with Zeus I pray you end when the greatest of Gods is shown honour in our song · but for men first, midst and last be the name of Ptolemy, for he is of men the chiefest.

The heroes that came of demigods of yore found skilly singers of the glorious deeds which they did; and in like manner a cunning teller of praises shall raise the hymn to Ptolemy, seeing hymns make the meed even of the Gods above

Now when the feller goes up to thick woody Ida he looks about him where to begin in all that plenty; and so I, where now shall I take up my tale when I might tell of ten thousand ways wherein the Gods have done honour to the greatest of kings?

'Twas in the blood First what an achiever of mighty exploits was Ptolemy Lagid when his mind conceived a device such as no other mind could come by! Whom now the Father hath made of equal honour with the Blessed; a golden mansion is builded him in the house of Zeus, and seated friendly beside him is the Lord of the Glancing Baldric, that God of woe to the Persians, Alexander,

"'Twas in the blood" the Greek is "'twas from his fathers," fathers meaning parents, as in Longus 4 33, Theocritus deals first with his father Ptolemy Lagid and then with his mother Berenice

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

- ἀντία δ' Ἑρακλῆος ἔδρα κενταυροφόνοιο <sup>1</sup> 20  
 ἵδρυται στερεοῖο τετυγμένα ἐξ ἀδάμαντος,  
 ἔνθα σὺν ἄλλοισιν θαλίας ἔχει Οὐρανίδαισι,  
 χαίρων υἱωνῶν περιώσιον υἱωνοῖσιν,  
 ὅττι σφεων Κρονίδας μελέων ἐξείλετο γῆρας,  
 ἀθάνατοι δὲ καλεῦνται ἐοὶ <sup>2</sup> νέποδες γεγαῶτες.  
 ἄμφω γὰρ πρόγονός σφιν ὁ καρτερός Ἑρακλείδας,  
 ἀμφοτέρω δ' ἀριθμῶνται ἐς ἔσχατον Ἑρακλῆα.  
 τῷ καὶ ἐπεὶ δαίτηθεν ἱοὶ κεκορημένος ἦδη  
 νέκταρος εὐδόμοιο φίλας ἐς δῶμ' ἀλόχοιο,  
 τῷ μὲν τόξον ἔδωκεν ὑπωλένιον τε φαρέτραν, 30  
 τῷ δὲ σιδάρειον σκύταλον κεχαραγμένον ὄξοις·  
 οἱ δ' εἰς ἀμβρόσιον θάλαμον λευκοσφύρου Ἥβας  
 ὅπλα καὶ αὐτὸν ἄγουσι γενειήταν Διὸς υἱόν.  
 οἷα δ' ἐν πινυταῖσι περικλειτὰ Βερενίκα  
 ἔπρεπε θηλυτέrais, ὄφελος μέγα γεινομένοισι.<sup>3</sup>  
 τᾷ μὲν Κύπρον ἔχοισα Διώνας πότνια κούρα  
 κόλπον ἐς εὐώδη ῥαδινὰς ἐσεμάξατο χεῖρας·  
 τῷ οὐπω τινα φαντὶ ἀδεῖν τόσον ἀνδρὶ γυναικῶν,  
 ὅσσον περ Πτολεμαῖος ἐὰν ἐφίλησεν ἄκοιτιν.  
 ἦ μὰν ἀντεφιλεῖτο πολὺ πλεον· ὧδέ κε παισὶ 40  
 θαρσῆσας σφετέροισιν ἐπιτρέποι οἶκον ἅπαντα,  
 ὁππότε κεν φιλέων βαίνῃ λέχος ἐς φιλεοίσας,  
 ἀστόργου δὲ γυναικὸς ἐπ' ἀλλοτρίῳ νόος αἰεὶ,  
 ῥαίδιοι δὲ γοναί, τέκνα δ' οὐ ποτεοικότα πατρί.

<sup>1</sup> ἔδρα κενταυροφόνοιο G Kiessling mss ἔδρακε ταυροφ  
<sup>2</sup> ἐοὶ Heinsius · mss θεοί <sup>3</sup> γεινομένοισι E, generalising  
 plural mss γειναμέναισι

## THEOCRITUS XVII, 20-44

while over against him is set the stark adamantine seat of Centaur-slayer Heracles, who taketh his meat with the other Sons of Heaven, rejoicing exceedingly that by grace of Zeus the children of his children's children have old age now lift from their limbs and they that were born his posterity are named and known of the Immortals. For unto either king the valiant founder of his race was a son of Heracles; both in the long last reckon Heracles of their line. And therefore now when the same Heracles hath had enough of the fragrant nectar and goes from table to seek the house of the wife he loves, he gives the one his bow and hanging quiver and the other his knaggy iron-hard club, to carry beside him as he goes, this bush-bearded son of Zeus, to the ambrosial chamber of the white-ankle Hebe

Then secondly for his mother; how bright among dames discreet shone the fame of Berenice! what a boon to her progeny was she! Of whom the lady possessor of Cyprus that is daughter of Dionè laid taper fingers upon the sweet soft bosom, and such, they say, did make her that never woman gave man so great delight as Ptolemy took in his love of that his wife. Aye, he got all as much as he gave and more; for while the wife that loves not sets her heart ever upon things alien, and has offspring indeed at her desire albeit the children favour not the father, 'tis when the love of the marriage-bed is each to each that with good courage one may leave, like Ptolemy, all his house to be ordered of his children. O Lady

"The wife that loves not" - this refers to no definite woman, which would be not only in the worst taste but certain to defeat the object of the poem, the winning of Ptolemy's



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κάλλει ἀριστεύουσα θεῶων πότν' Ἀφροδίτα,  
 σοὶ τήνα μεμέλητο· σέθεν δ' ἔνεκεν Βερενίκα  
 εὐειδῆς Ἀχέροντα πολύστονον οὐκ ἐπέρασεν,  
 ἀλλὰ μιν ἀρπάξασα, πάροιθ' ἐπὶ νῆα κατελθεῖν  
 κυανέαν καὶ στυγνὸν αἰὲ πορθμῆα καμόντων,  
 ἐς ναὸν κατέθηκας, ἕως δ' ἀπεδάσσαι τιμάς·  
 πᾶσιν δ' ἥπιος ἅδε βροτοῖς μαλακοὺς μὲν ἔρωτας  
 προσπνέει, κούφας δὲ διδοῖ ποθέοντι μερίμνας.

50

Ἀργεία κυάνοφρυ, σὺ λαοφόνον Διομήδεα  
 μισγομένα Τυδῆι τέκες, Καλυδώνιον ἄνδρα,  
 ἀλλὰ Θέτις βαθύκολπος ἀκοντιστὰν Ἀχιλλῆα  
 Αἰακίδα Πηλῆι, σὲ δ' αἰχμητὰ Πτολεμαῖε  
 αἰχμητᾶ Πτολεμαίῳ ἀρίζηλος Βερενίκα.

καί σε Κόως ἀτίταλλε βρέφος νεογιλλὸν ἔοντα,  
 δεξαμένα παρὰ ματρός, ὅτε πρῶταν ἴδες αἶω.  
 ἔνθα γὰρ Εὐλείθυιαν ἐβώσατο λυσίζωνον  
 Ἀντιγόνας θυγάτηρ βεβαρημένα ὠδίνεσσιν·  
 ἃ δέ οἱ εὐμενέοισα παρίστατο, καὶ δ' ἄρα πάντων  
 νωδυνίαν κατέχευε μελῶν· ὃ δὲ πατρὶ ἐοικῶς  
 παῖς ἀγαπατὸς ἔγεντο. Κόως δ' ὀλόλυξεν ἰδοῖσα,  
 φᾶ δὲ καθαπτομένα βρέφους χεῖρεσσι φίλαισιν·  
 ὄλβιε κούρε γένοιο, τίοις δέ με τόσσον, ὅσον περ  
 Δᾶλον ἐτίμασεν κυανάμπυκα Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων·  
 ἐν δὲ μιᾷ τιμᾷ Τρίοπον<sup>1</sup> καταθεῖο κολώναν

60

<sup>1</sup> Τρίοπον so mss    Stephanus perhaps rightly Τρίοπος

## THEOCRITUS XVII, 45-68

Aphrodite, chiefest beauty of the Goddesses, as 'twas thou that hadst made her to be such, so 'twas of thee that the fair Berenice passed not sad lamentable Acheron, but or e'er she reached the murky ship and that ever-sullen shipman the ferrier of the departed, was rapt away to be a Goddess in a temple, where now participating in thy great prerogatives, with a gentle breath she both inspires all mankind unto soft desires and lightens the cares of him that hath loved and lost

Even as the dark-browed Argive maid did bear unto Tydeus Diomed of Calydon the slayer of peoples, but and even as deep-bosom'd Thetis bare unto Peleus Aeacid javelineer Achilles, in like manner, O my liege, did renowned Berenice bear to warrior Ptolemy another warrior Ptolemy.

And when thou first saw'st the dawn, she that took thee from thy mother and dandled thee, poor babe, on her lap, was the good lady Cos; for there in Cos island had the daughter of Antigonè cried aloud to the Gudge-Looser in the oppression of pain, there had the Goddess stood by to comfort her and to shed immunity from grief upon all her limbs, and there was born in the likeness of his father the beloved son. And when she beheld him, good Cos broke into a cry of joy, and clasping the babe in her loving arms 'Heaven bless thee, boy,' said she, 'and grant I may have all as much honour of thee as blue-snooded Delos had of Phoebus Apollo; and not I only, but Heaven send thou assign equal privilege to

patronage The phrase is simply a foil. Theocritus means that Ptolemy I would not have abdicated had he not had his wife's love and all that that entails "the Argive maid": Deipylè

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἴσον Δωριέεσσι νέμων γέρας ἐγγυὺς ἐοῦσιν·  
 ἴσον καὶ Ῥήναιαν ἄναξ ἐφίλησεν Ἀπόλλων.<sup>70</sup>  
 ὥς ἄρα νᾶσος ἔειπεν· ὃ δ' ὑψόθεν ἔκλαγε φωνᾷ  
 ἐς τρεῖς ἀπὸ νεφέων μέγας αἰετὸς αἴσιος ὄρνις.  
 Ζηνὸς που τόδε σᾶμα. Διὶ Κρονίωνι μέλονται  
 αἰδοῖοι βασιλῆες· ὃ δ' ἔξοχος, ὃν κε φιλήσῃ  
 γεινόμενον τὰ πρῶτα· πολὺς δέ οἱ ὄλβος ὀπαδεῖ,  
 πολλὰς δὲ κρατέει γαίας, πολλὰς δὲ θαλάσσας.  
 μυρίαὶ ἄπειροί τε καὶ ἔθνεα μυρία φωτῶν  
 λήιον ἀλδήσκουσιν ὀφελλόμεναι Διὸς ὄμβρῳ·  
 ἀλλ' οὔτις τόσα φύει ὅσα χθαμαλὰ Αἴγυπτος,  
 Νεῖλος ἀναβλύζων διερὰν ὅτε βώλακα θρύπτει,<sup>80</sup>  
 οὐδέ τις ἄστεα τόσσα βροτῶν ἔχει ἔργα δαέντων.  
 τρεῖς μὲν οἱ πολίων ἑκατοντάδες ἐνδεδήμενται,  
 τρεῖς δ' ἄρα χιλιάδες τρισσαῖς ἐπὶ μυριάδεσσι,  
 δοιαὶ δὲ τριάδες, μετὰ δέ σφισιν ἐννεάδες τρεῖς·  
 τῶν πάντων Πτολεμαῖος ἀγήνωρ ἐμβασιλεύει.  
 καὶ μὰν Φοινίκας ἀποτέμνεται Ἀρραβίας τε  
 καὶ Συρίας Λιβύας τε κελαινῶν τ' Αἰθιοπῶν·  
 Παμφύλοισι<sup>1</sup> τε πᾶσι καὶ αἰχμηταῖς Κιλίκεσσι  
 σαμαίνει, Λυκίοις τε φιλοπτολέμοισι τε Καρσί,  
 καὶ νάσοις Κυκλάδεσσιν· ἐπεὶ οἱ νᾶες ἄρισται<sup>2</sup><sup>90</sup>  
 πόντον ἐπιπλῶντι, θάλασσα δὲ πᾶσα καὶ αἶα  
 καὶ ποταμοὶ κελάδοντες ἀνάσσονται Πτολεμαίῳ,

<sup>1</sup> Παμφύλοισι Schrader. mss Παμφυλίοισι    <sup>2</sup> ἄρισται  
 Stephanus, mss ἄριστοι through misunderstanding οἱ

## THEOCRITUS XVII, 69-92

all the neighbour Dorian cities in the joint honour of the Triopian Hill, for Apollo gave Rheneia equal love with Delos' Thus far the Island, and lo! from the clouds above came thrice over the boding croak of a great eagle And 'faith, 'twas of Zeus that sign; for Zeus Cronion, as he watches over all reverend kings, so especially careth he for a king that he hath loved from his earliest hour Such an one is attended of great good-fortune, and wins himself the mastery of much land and of many seas.

Ten thousand are the lands and ten thousand the nations that make the crops to spring under aid of the rain of Zeus, but there's no country so fruitful as the low-country of Egypt when Nile comes gushing up to soak the soil and break it, nor no country, neither, possessed of so many cities of men learned in labour The cities builded therein are three hundreds and three thousands and three tens of thousands, and threes twain and nines three, and in them the lord and master of all is proud Ptolemy. Aye, and of Phoenicia and Arabia he taketh to him a hantle, and eke of Syria and Libya and of the swart Aethiop's country; and he giveth the word to all them of Pamphylia and all the warriors of Cilicia, and to the people of Lycia and warlike Caria and to the Cyclad Isles he giveth it; and this because he hath a noble navy sailing the main, so that all the sea, every land, and each of the sounding rivers doth acknowledge his dominion, and full many are the mighty warriors

"Rheneia" an island near Delos; Triopum is a promontory of Caria where the Dorian Pentapolis of Cos and the neighbouring cities celebrated a common worship of Apollo and other Gods The Pentapolis was apparently asking Ptolemy for some privilege at this time.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

πολλοὶ δ' ἱππῆες, πολλοὶ δέ μιν ἀσπιδιῶται  
χαλκῷ μαρμαίροντι σεσαγμένοι ἀμφαγέρονται.

ὄλβω μὲν πάντας κε καταβρίθιοι βασιλῆας·  
τόσσον ἐπ' ἅμαρ ἕκαστον ἐς ἀφνὸν ἔρχεται  
οἶκον

πάντοθε. λαοὶ δ' ἔργα περιστέλλονται<sup>1</sup> ἔκηλοι.  
οὐ γάρ τις δηίων πολυκῆτεα Νεῖλον ὑπερβὰς  
πεζὸς ἐν ἀλλοτρίαισι βοὰν ἐστάσατο κώμαις,  
οὐδέ τις αἰγιαλόνδε θοᾶς ἐξάλατο ναὸς  
θωρηχθεὶς ἐπὶ βουσὶν ἀνάρσιος Αἰγυπτίαισι·  
τοῖος ἀνὴρ πλατέεσσιν ἐνίδρυται πεδίοισι  
ξανθοκόμας Πτολεμαῖος, ἐπιστάμενος δόρυ  
πάλλειν,

100

ὃ ἐπίπαγχυ μέλει πατρώια πάντα φυλάσσειν  
οἷ' ἀγαθῷ βασιλῇ, τὰ δὲ κτεατίζεται αὐτός.  
οὐ μὰν ἀχρεῖός γε δόμῳ ἐνὶ πτόνι χρυσὸς  
μυρμάκων ἅτε πλοῦτος αἰεὶ κέχυται μογεόντων·  
ἀλλὰ πολλὸν μὲν ἔχοντι θεῶν ἐρικυδέες οἴκοι,  
αἰὲν ἀπαρχομένοιο σὺν ἄλλοισιν γεράεσσι,  
πολλὸν δ' ἰφθίμοισι δεδῶρηται βασιλεῦσι,  
πολλὸν δὲ πτολίεσσι, πολλὸν δ' ἀγαθοῖσιν ἐταίροις.  
οὐδὲ Διωνύσου τις ἀνὴρ ἱερούς κατ' ἀγῶνας  
ἔκετ' ἐπιστάμενος λιγυρὰν ἀναμέλψαι ἀοιδάν,  
ὃ οὐ δωτίναν ἀντάξιον ὥπασε τέχνας.

110

Μουσάων δ' ὑποφῆται αἰεῖδοντι Πτολεμαῖον  
ἀντ' εὐεργεσίας. τί δὲ κάλλιον ἀνδρὶ κεν εἶη  
ὄλβιῳ ἢ κλέος ἐσθλὸν ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ἀρέσθαι;  
τοῦτο καὶ Ἀτρεΐδαισι μένει· τὰ δὲ μυρία τῆνα,

<sup>1</sup> περιστέλλονται. mss also περιστέλλουσιν

## THEOCRITUS XVII, 93-118

a-horseback and full many the bunnished brass-clad targeteers afoot that rally for the battle around his standard

For wealth, his would outweigh the wealth of all the princes of the earth together,—so much comes into his rich habitation both day by day and from every quarter And as for his peoples, they occupy their business without let or hindrance, seeing that no foeman hath crossed afoot that river of monsters to set up a cry in alien townships, nor none leapt from swift ship upon that beach all mailed to make havoc of the Egyptian kine,—of such noble sort is the flaxen-haired prince that is throned in these level plains, a prince who not only hath cunning to wield the spear, but, as a good king should, makes it his chiefest care both to keep all that he hath of his father and to add somewhat for himself. But not to no purpose doth his gold lie, like so much riches of the still-toiling emmet, in his opulent house, much of it—for never makes he offerings of firstfruits but gold is one—is spent upon the splendid dwellings of the Gods, and much of it again is given in presents to cities, to stalwart kings, or to the good friends that bear him company Nay, no cunning singer of tuneful song that hath sought part in Dionysus' holy contests but hath received of him a gift to the full worth of his skill

But 'tis not for his wealth that the interpreters of the Muses sing praise of Ptolemy; rather is it for his well-doing And what can be finer for a wealthy and prosperous man than to earn a fair fame among his fellow-men? This it is which endureth even to the sons of Atreus, albeit all those ten thousand

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὅσσα μέγαν Πριάμοιο δόμον κτεάτισσαν ἐλόντες  
 ἄερι πα κέκρυπται, ὅθεν πάλιν οὐκέτι νόστος. 120  
 μῦνος ὅδε προτέρων τε καὶ ὦν<sup>1</sup> ἔτι θερμὰ κονία  
 στειβομένα καθύπερθε ποδῶν ἐκμάσσεται ἵχνη,  
 ματρὶ φίλα καὶ πατρὶ θυώδεας εἴσατο ναούς·  
 ἐν δ' αὐτοὺς χρυσῷ περικαλλέας ἡδ' ἐλέφαντι  
 ἵδρυται πάντεσσιν ἐπιχθονίοισιν ἀρωγούς.  
 πολλὰ δὲ πιαυθέντα βοῶν ὄγε μηρία καίει  
 μῆσι περιπλομένοισιν ἐρευθομένων ἐπὶ βωμῶν,  
 αὐτός τ' ἰφθίμα τ' ἄλοχος, τᾶς οὐτις ἀρείων  
 νυμφίον ἐν μεγάροισι γυνὰ περιβάλλετ' ἀγοστῶ,  
 ἐκ θυμοῦ στέργοισα κασίγνητόν τε πόσιν τε. 130  
 ὦδε καὶ ἀθανάτων ἱερὸς γάμος ἐξετελέσθη,  
 οὗς τέκετο κρείουσα Ῥέα βασιλῆας Ὀλύμπου·  
 ἐν δὲ λέχος<sup>2</sup> στύρνυσιν ἰαύειν Ζανὶ καὶ Ἥρᾳ  
 χεῖρας φοιβήσασα μύροις ἔτι<sup>3</sup> παρθένος Ἴρις.  
 χαῖρε ἄναξ Πτολεμαῖε· σέθεν δ' ἐγὼ ἴσα καὶ  
 ἄλλων  
 μνάσομαι ἡμιθέων, δοκέω δ' ἔπος οὐκ ἀπόβλητον  
 φθέγγεσθαι ἐσσομένοις· ἀρετὰν γε μὲν ἐκ Διὸς  
 αἰτεῦ.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> τε καὶ ὦν Briggs mss τεκέων or τοκέων <sup>2</sup> ἐν δὲ λέχος·  
 mss also ἀγνὸν δὲ (Ahr ἄγνον δὲ) <sup>3</sup> ἔτι = αἰ as in *Επιγ* 20  
 and *Ερ. Βιον* 92 <sup>4</sup> αἰτεῦ mss also εἴσεις

## THEOCRITUS XVII, 119-137

possessions that fell to them when they took Priam's great house, they lie hid somewhere in that mist whence no return can be evermore. And this man hath done that which none before hath done, be he of them of old, be he of those whose footmarks are yet warm in the dust they trod; he hath builded incense-fragrant temples to his mother and father dear, and hath set therein images of them in gold and ivory, very beautiful, to be the aid of all that live upon the earth. And many are the thighs of fatted oxen that as the months go round he consumes upon the reddening altars, he and that his fine noble spouse, who maketh him a better wife than ever clasped bridegroom under any roof, seeing that she loveth with her whole heart brother and husband in one. So too in heaven was the holy wedlock accomplished of those whom august Rhea bare to be rulers of Olympus, so too the myrrh-cleansed hands of the ever-maiden Iris lay but one couch for the slumbering of Zeus and Hera.

And now farewell, Lord Ptolemy; and I will speak of thee as of other demi-gods, and methinks what I shall say will not be lost upon posterity; 'tis this—excellence ask from none but Zeus.





### XVIII.—THE EPITHALAMY OF HELEN

*THIS is a short Epic piece of the same type as XIII. Both begin, as do XXV and Bion II, with a phrase suggesting that they are consequent upon something previous ; but this, like the ergo or igitur of Propertius and Ovid, is no more than a recognised way of beginning a short poem. The introduction, unlike that of XIII, contains no dedication. The scholia tell us Theocritus here imitates certain passages of Stesichorus' first Epithalamy of Helen. He seems also to have had Sappho's book of Wedding-Songs before him.*

# XVIII.—ΕΛΕΝΗΣ ΕΠΙΘΑΛΛΑΜΙΟΣ

Ἐν ποκ' ἄρα Σπάρτα ξανθότριχι πὰρ Μενελάφ  
 παρθενικαὶ θάλλοντα κόμαις ὑάκινθον ἔχοισαι  
 πρόσθε νεογράφω θαλάμῳ χορὸν ἐστάσαντο,  
 δώδεκα ται πρᾶται πόλιος, μέγα χρήμα Λακαινῶν,  
 ἀνίκα Τυνδαρίδᾳ κατεκλάζετο τὰν ἀγαπατὰν  
 μναστεύσας Ἑλέναν ὁ νεώτερος Ἀτρεὺς υἱῶν.  
 ᾄδιδον δ' ἄρα πᾶσαι ἐς ἓν μέλος ἐγκροτέοισαι  
 ποσσὶ περιπλικτοῖς, ὑπὸ δ' ἴαχε δῶμ' ὑμεναίῳι.

Οὕτω δὴ πρῶιζα κατέδραθες ὦ φίλε γαμβρέ ;  
 ἦρά τις ἐσσι λῖαν βαρυγῶνατος, ἦρα φίλυπνος, 10  
 ἦρα πολύν τιν' ἔπινες, ὅκ' <sup>1</sup> εἰς εὐνὰν κατεβάλλειν ;  
 εὔδειν μὰν σπεύδοντα καθ' ὥραν αὐτὸν ἐχρήν  
 τυ,  
 παῖδα δ' ἔαν σὺν παισὶ φιλοστόργῳ παρὰ ματρὶ  
 παῖσδειν ἐς βαθὺν ὄρθρον, ἐπεὶ καὶ ἕνας καὶ ἐς  
 ἁῶ  
 κεῖς ἔτος ἐξ ἔτεος, Μενέλα, τεὰ <sup>2</sup> ἀ νυὸς ἄδε.

<sup>1</sup> ὅκ' Wil. mss ὅτ'   
 Μενέλαε τεὰ

<sup>2</sup> Μενέλα τεὰ ἀ Meineke · mss

## XVIII.—THE EPITHALAMY OF HELEN

It seems that once upon a time at the house of flaxen-haired Menelaus in Sparta, the first twelve maidens of the town, fine pieces all of Laconian womanhood, came crowned with fresh flowering luces, and before a new-painted chamber took up the dance, when the younger child of Atreus shut the wedding door upon the girl of his wooing, upon the daughter of Tyndareus, to wit the beloved Helen. There with their pretty feet criss-crossing all to the time of one tune they sang till the palace rang again with the echoes of this wedding-song:—

What Bridegroom! dear Bridegroom! thus early  
abed and asleep?

Wast born a man of sluggardye,  
Or is thy pillow sweet to thee,  
Or ere thou cam'st to bed maybe  
Didst drink a little deep?

If thou wert so fain to sleep betimes, 'twere better  
sleep alone,

And leave a maid with maids to play  
By a fond mother's side till dawn of day,  
Sith for the morrow and its morn,  
For this and all the years unborn,  
This sweet bride is thine own.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὄλβιε γάμβρ', ἀγαθός τις ἐπέπταρεν ἐρχομένῳ

τοῖ

ἐς Σπάρταν ἄπερ ὄλλοι ἀριστέες ὡς ἀνύσαιο.

μοῦνος ἐν ἡμιθέοις Κρονίδαν Δία πενθερὸν ἐξεῖς·

Ζανός τοι θυγάτηρ ὑπὸ τὰν μίαν ἔκετο χλαῖναν,

οἷα Ἀχαιιάδων γαῖαν πατεῖ οὐδεμί' ἄλλα.

20

ἦ μέγα κά τι τέκοιτ', εἰ ματέρι τίκτοι ὁμοῖον·

ἄμμες ταῖ<sup>1</sup> πᾶσαι συνομάλικες, αἷς δρόμος αὐτὸς

χρिसαμέναις ἀνδριστὶ παρ' Εὐρώταο λοετροῖς,

τετράκις ἐξήκοντα κόραι, θῆλυς νεολαία—

τᾶν οὐδ' ἦν<sup>2</sup> τις ἄμωμος, ἐπεὶ χ' Ἑλένα παρι-

σωθῇ.

ἀὼς ἀντέλλοισα καλὸν διέφανε<sup>3</sup> πρόσωπον,

πότνια Νύξ, ἄτε λευκὸν ἔαρ χειμῶνος ἀνέντος·

ὦδε καὶ ἡ χρυσέα Ἑλένα διεφαίνεται ἐν αἰνῷ.

πιεῖρα μέγα λᾶον<sup>4</sup> ἀνέδραμε κόσμος ἀρούρα

ἣ κάπῳ κυπάρισσος ἣ ἄρματι Θεσσαλὸς ἵππος·

30

ὦδε καὶ ἡ ῥοδόχρως Ἑλένα Λακεδαίμονι κόσμος.

<sup>1</sup> ταῖ E : mss δ' αἰ or γὰρ    <sup>2</sup> ἦν E · mss ἀν, a correction of the corruption ἦν    <sup>3</sup> διέφανε Ahrens mss διέφαινε    <sup>4</sup> μέγα λᾶον Eichstaedt mss μεγάλα ἄτ'

THEOCRITUS XVIII, 16-31

When thou like others of high degree cam'st here  
thy suit a-pressing,  
Sure some good body, well is thee, sneezed thee a  
proper blessing,  
For of all these lordings there's but one shall be son  
of the High Godhead,

Aye, 'neath one coverlet with thee  
Great Zeus his daughter is come to be,  
A lady whose like is not to see

Where Grecian women tread

And if she bring a mother's bairn 'twill be of a  
wondrous grace ;

For sure all we which her fellows be, that ran with  
her the race,

Anointed lasses like the lads, Eurótas' pools beside—  
O' the four-times threescore maidens that were  
Sparta's flower and pride

There was none so fair as might compare with  
Menelaus' bride

O Lady Night, 'tis passing bright the face o' the  
rising day ;

Tis like the white spring o' the year  
When winter is no longer here ;  
But so shines golden Helen clear

Among our meime so gay

And the crops that upstand in a fat ploughland do  
make it fair to see,

And a cypress the garden where she grows,  
And a Thessaly steed the chariot he knows ;  
But so doth Helen red as the rose

Make fair her dear countrye.

“ The white spring ” . white with flowers

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὔτε τις ἐκ θαλάρῳ πανίσδεται ἔργα τοιαῦτα,  
οὔτ' ἐνὶ δαιδαλέῳ πυκινώτερον ἄτριον ἰσθῶ  
κερκίδι συμπλέξασα μακρῶν ἔταμ' ἐκ κελεόντων·  
οὐ μὰν οὐδὲ λύραν <sup>1</sup> τις ἐπίσταται ὧδε κροτῆσαι  
Ἄρτεμιν αἰείδοισα καὶ εὐρύστερνον Ἀθάναν,  
ὥς Ἑλένα, τῆς πάντες ἐπ' ὄμμασιν ἴμεροι ἐντί.

ὦ καλὰ ὦ χαρίεσσα κόρα, τὸ μὲν οἰκέτις ἤδη,  
ἄμμες δ' ἐς δρόμον ἦρι καὶ ἐς λειμώνια φύλλα  
ἐρψεύμεσ στεφάνως δρεψεύμεναι ἀδὺν πνέοντας,  
πολλὰ τεοῦς Ἑλένα μεμναμέναι ὥς γαλαθηναὶ  
ἄρνες γειναμένας ὄιος μαστὸν ποθέοισαι.  
πράτῃ <sup>2</sup> τοι στέφανον λωτῷ χαμαὶ αὐξομένοιο  
πλέξασαι σκιερὰν καταθήσομες ἐς πλατάνιστον,  
πράτῃ <sup>2</sup> δ' ἀργυρέας ἐξ ὄλπιδος ὑγρὸν ἄλειφαρ  
λαζύμεναι σταξεῦμες ὑπὸ σκιερὰν πλατάνιστον·  
γράμματα δ' ἐν φλοιῷ γεγράφεται, ὥς παριῶν

τις

ἀννείμῃ, Δωριστί· 'σέβευ μ', Ἑλένας φυτὸν  
ἐμμί.' <sup>3</sup>

χαίροις ὦ νύμφα, χαίροις εὐπένθερε γαμβρέ.  
Λατῷ μὲν δοίῃ, Λατῷ κουροτρόφος ὕμμιν

<sup>1</sup> οὐδὲ λύραν mss also οὐ κιθάραν <sup>2</sup> πράτῃ Reiske.  
mss πράται <sup>3</sup> σέβευ and ἐμμί Hermann mss σέβου and  
εἰμι

THEOCRITUS XVIII, 32-50

And never doth woman on bobbın wind such thread  
as her baskets teem,  
Nor shuttlework so close and fine cuts from the  
weaver's beam,  
Nor none hath skill to ply the quill to the Gods of  
Women above  
As the maiden wise in whose bright eyes dwells all  
desire and love.

O maid of beauty, maid of grace, thou art a huswife  
now ;  
But we shall betimes to the running-place i' the  
meads where flowers do blow,  
And cropping garlands sweet and sweet about our  
brows to do,  
Like lambs athirst for the mother's teat shall long,  
dear Helen, for you  
For you afore all shall a coronal of the gay ground-  
ling trefoil  
Hang to a shady platan-tree, and a vial of running  
oil  
His offering drip from a silver lip beneath the same  
platan-tree,  
And a Doric rede be writ i' the bark  
For him that passeth by to mark,  
' I am Helen's ; worship me.'

And 'tis Bride farewell, and Groom farewell, that be  
son of a mighty sire,  
And Leto, great Nurse Leto, grant children at your  
desire,

"Quill" the plectrum of the lyre "The Gods of  
Women" - the Greek has 'Artemis and Athena.'



## THE BU'COLIC POETS

εὐτεκνίαν, Κύπρις δέ, θεὰ Κύπρις ἴσον ἔρασθαι  
ἀλλάλων, Ζεὺς δέ, Κρονίδας Ζεὺς ἄφθιτον  
ὄλβον,

ὥς ἐξ εὐπατριδᾶν εἰς εὐπατρίδας πάλιν ἔνθη.  
εὕδεται ἑς ἀλλάλων στέρνον φιλότατα πνέοντες  
καὶ πόθον ἔγρεσθαι δὲ πρὸς ἁῶ μῆπιλάθησθε.  
νεύμεθα κᾶμμες ἐς ὄρθρον, ἐπεὶ κα πρᾶτος  
ἁοιδὸς

ἐξ εὐνᾶς κελαδήσῃ ἀνασχὼν εὐτριχα δειράν.

Ἵμῆν ὦ Ἵμέναιε, γάμφῃ ἐπὶ τῷδε χαρείης.

THEOCRITUS XVIII, 51-58

And Cypris, holy Cypris, an equal love alway,  
And Zeus, high Zeus, prosperitie  
That drawn of parents of high degree  
Shall pass to a noble progenye  
For ever and a day.

Sleep on and rest, and on either breast may the  
love-breath playing go ;  
Sleep now, but when the day shall break  
Forget not from your sleep to wake ;  
For we shall come wi' the dawn along  
Soon as the first-waked master o' song  
Lift feathery neck to crow

*Sing Hey for the Wedding, sing Ho for the Wedder,  
and thanks to him that made it !*



## XIX --THE HONEY-STEALER

*THIS little poem probably belongs to a later date than the Bucolic writers, and was brought into the collection merely owing to its resemblance to the Runaway Love of Moschus.*

## XIX.—ΚΗΡΙΟΚΛΕΠΤΗΣ

Τὸν κλέπταν ποτ' Ἔρωτα κακὰ κέντασε μέλισσα  
 κηρίον ἐκ σίμβλων συλεύμενον, ἄκρα δὲ χειρῶν  
 δάκτυλα πάνθ' ὑπένυξεν. ὃ δ' ἄλγεε καὶ χέρ'  
     ἐφύση  
 καὶ τὰν γὰρ ἐπάταξε καὶ ἄλατο, τῇ δ' Ἀφροδίτῃ  
 δείξεν ἂν<sup>1</sup> ὀδύναν καὶ μέμφετο, ὅττι γε τυτθὸν  
 θηρίον ἐστὶ μέλισσα καὶ ἀλικά τραύματα ποιεῖ.  
 χὰ μάτηρ γελάσασα· 'τί δ', οὐκ ἴσος ἐσσί  
     μελίσσαις,  
 ὃς τυτθὸς μὲν ἔεις,<sup>2</sup> τὰ δὲ τραύματα ταλικά<sup>3</sup>  
     ποιεῖς;

<sup>1</sup> ἂν Wil mss τὰν      <sup>2</sup> ὃς Valckenaer mss χῶ      ἔεις  
 Wil thinks probable: mss ἔης      <sup>3</sup> ταλικά Porson mss  
 ἀλικά



## XX —THE YOUNG COUNTRYMAN

A NEATHERD, *chafing because a city wench disdains him, protests that he is a handsome fellow, and that Gods have been known to make love to country-folk, and calls down upon her the curse of perpetual celibacy* This spirited poem is a monologue, but preserves the mime-form by means of dumb characters, the shepherds of line 19 Stylistic considerations belie the tradition which ascribes it to Theocritus.

## XX.—ΒΟΥΚΟΛΙΣΚΟΣ

Εὐνίκα μ' ἐγέλαξε θέλοντά μιν ἀδὺ φιλῆσαι,  
καί μ' ἐπικερτομέοισα τάδ' ἔννεπεν ' ἔρρ' ἀπ' ἐμεῖο.  
βουκόλος ὦν ἐθέλεις με κύσαι τάλαν; οὐ μεμάθηκα  
ἀγροίκως φιλέειν, ἀλλ' ἀστικά χεῖλεα θλίβειν.  
μὴ τύγε μεν κύσσης τὸ καλὸν στόμα μηδ' ἐν  
ὀνείροις.

οἶα βλέπεις, ὅπποῖα λαλεῖς, ὥς ἀστικά παῖσδεις,  
χεῖλεά τοι νοτέοντι,<sup>1</sup> χέρες δέ τοι ἐντὶ μέλαιναι,  
καὶ κακὸν ἐξόσδεις. ἀπ' ἐμεῦ φύγε, μὴ με  
μολύνῃς.

τοιάδε μυθίζοισα τρὶς εἰς ἓδον ἔπτυσσε κόλπον,  
καί μ' ἀπὸ τᾶς κεφαλᾶς ποτὶ τὸ πόδε συνεχὲς  
εἶδε

χεῖλεσι μυχθίζοισα καὶ ὄμμασι λοξὰ βλέποισα,  
καὶ πολὺ τᾶ μορφᾷ θηλύνετο, καί τι σεσαρὸς  
καὶ σοβαρόν μ' ἐγέλαξεν. ἐμοὶ δ' ἄφαρ ἔξεσεν  
αἶμα,

καὶ χρῶα φοινίχθην ὑπὸ τᾷ λγεος ὥς ῥόδον ἔρσα.  
χὰ μὲν ἔβα με λιποῖσα· φέρω δ' ὑποκάρδιον  
ὀργάν,

ὅττι με τὸν χαρίεντα κακὰ μωμήσαθ' ἐταίρα.

<sup>1</sup> νοτέοντι Sauppe : mss νοσέοντι

7 ὥς τρυφερὸν καλέεις, ὥς κωτίλα βήματα φράσδεις  
ὥς μαλακὸν τὸ γένειον ἔχεις, ὥς ἁδέα λαίταν  
As Wil sees, these lines cannot belong here



## XX.—THE YOUNG COUNTRYMAN

WHEN I would have kissed her sweetly, Eunice  
fleered at me and flouted me saying, 'Go with a  
mischief! What? kiss me a miserable clown like  
thee? I never learned your countrified bussing; my  
kissing is in the fashion o' the town. I will not  
have such as thee to kiss my pretty lips, nay, not in  
his dreams. Lord, how you look! Lord, how you  
talk! Lord, how you antic! Your lips are wet and  
your hands black, and you smell rank. Hold off and  
begone, or you'll befoul me!' Telling this tale she  
spit thrice in her bosom, and all the while eyed me  
from top to toe, and mowed at me and leered at me  
and played the jade at me, and anon did right  
broadly, scornfully, and disdainfully laugh at me.  
Trust me, my blood boiled up in a moment, and my  
face went as red with the anguish of it as the rose  
with the dewdrops And so she up and left me, but  
it rankles in my heart that such a filthy diab should  
cavil at a well-favoured fellow like me

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

ποιμένες, εἴπατέ μοι τὸ κρήγυνον· οὐ καλὸς ἐμμί;  
 ἄρά τις ἔξαπίνας με θεὸς βροτὸν ἄλλον ἔτευξε; 20  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐμοὶ τὸ πάροιθεν ἐπάνθεν ἀδύ τι κάλλος  
 ὥς κισσὸς ποτὶ πρέμνον, ἐμὰν δ' ἐπύκαζεν  
 ὑπήναν,  
 χαίται δ' οἶα σέλινα περὶ κροτάφοισι κέχυντο,  
 καὶ λευκὸν τὸ μέτωπον ἐπ' ὀφρύσι λάμπε μελαί-  
 ναις·  
 ὄμματά μοι γλαυκᾶς χαροπώτερα πολλὸν Ἀθάνας,  
 καὶ στόματ' αὖ πακτᾶς γλαφυρώτερα, κῆκ<sup>1</sup> στομά-  
 των δέ  
 ἔρρεέ μοι φωνὰ γλυκερωτέρα ἢ μελίκηρον.<sup>2</sup>  
 ἀδὺ δέ μοι τὸ μέλισμα, καὶ ἦν σύριγγι μελίσδω,  
 κῆν αὐλῷ λαλέω, κῆν δώνακι, κῆν πλαγιαύλῳ.  
 καὶ πᾶσαι καλὸν με κατ' ὥρεα φαντὶ γυναικες, 30  
 καὶ πᾶσαί με φιλεῦντι· τὰ δ' ἀστικά μ' οὐκ  
 ἐφίλησεν,  
 ἀλλ' ὅτι βουκόλος ἐμμί, παρέδραμε κοῦ ποτάκουε.<sup>3</sup>  
 οὐ καλὸς Διόνυσος ἐν ἄγκεσι ταῦρον<sup>4</sup> ἐλαύνει;  
 οὐκ ἔγνω δ', ὅτι Κύπρις ἐπ' ἀνέρι μῆνατο βούτα  
 καὶ Φρυγίοις ἐνόμεισεν ἐν ὥρεσιν; οὐ τὸν<sup>5</sup> Ἀδωνιν  
 ἐν δρυμοῖσι φίλησε καὶ ἐν δρυμοῖσιν ἔκλαυσεν;  
 Ἐνδυμίων δέ τίς ἦν; οὐ βουκόλος; ὃν γε Σελάνα  
 βουκολέοντα φίλησεν, ἀπ' Οὐλύμπω δέ μολοῖσα  
 Λάτμιον ἂν νάπος ἦλθε καὶ εἰς ἐὰ παιδικὰ νεῦσε<sup>6</sup>;  
 καὶ τὸ Ῥέα κλαίεις τὸν βουκόλον οὐχὶ δέ καὶ τὸ 40

<sup>1</sup> στόματ' αὖ πακτᾶς E mss στόμα δ' αὖ π or στόμα ἢ καὶ ὑπ'  
 ἀκτᾶς γλαφυρώτερα Wil (but -ρον) · mss γλυκερώτερον  
 from below κῆκ E : mss ἐκ <sup>2</sup> μελίκηρον E : mss μελι-  
 κήρῳ or μέλι κηρῷ · ποτάκουε Ziegler · mss -ακούει  
<sup>4</sup> οὐ E. mss ὁ or χῶ ταῦρον E, cf e g Gerhard Auser-

## THEOCRITUS XX, 19-40

Tell me true, master Shepherds; see you not here a proper man, or hath some power taken and transmewed him? Marry, 'twas a sweet piece of ivy bloomed ere now on this tree, and a sweet piece of beauty put fringe to this lip; the hair o' these temples lay lush as the parsley; this forehead did shine me white above and these eyebrows black below; these eyes were beamy as the Grey-eyed Lady's, this mouth trim as a cream-cheese; and the voice which came forth o' this mouth was even as honeycomb. Sweet also is the music I make, be it o' the pipe, be it o' the babbling hautboy, be it o' the flute or the crossflute. And there's not a lass in the uplands but says I am good to look to, not one but kisses me, neither; but your city pieces, look you, never a kiss got I o' them, but they ran me by and would not listen because I herd cows.

Doth not the beautiful Dionysus ride a bull i' the dells? Wist she not Cypris ran mad after a neatherd and tended cattle i' th' Phrygian hills? And the same Cypris, loved she not Adonis in the woods and in the woods bewailed him? And what of Endymion? Was it not a neatherd the Lady Moon loved when he was at his labour, and came down from Olympus into Latmos vale to bow herself over him of her choice? Thou too, great Rhea, dost bewail a neatherd; and didst not e'en thou, thou Son of Cronus, become a

*lesene Vasenbilder* 47 mss *πόρτιν* through misinterpretation of *ἐλαύνει*, cf. 5. 116, Ar. *Eccl* 39 <sup>5</sup> οὐ τὸν Is Vossius · mss *αὐτὸν* <sup>6</sup> *Δάτμιον* Musurus mss *λάθριον* *παιδικὰ νεῦσε* Wil mss *παιδὶ κάθεινδε*

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὦ Κρονίδα διὰ παῖδα βοηνόμον ὄρνις ἐπλάγχθης;  
 Εὐνίκα δὲ μόνα τὸν βουκόλον οὐκ ἐφίλασεν,  
 ἅ Κυβέλας κρέσσων καὶ Κύπριδος ἥδὲ Σελάνας.  
 μηκέτι μηδ' αἶ,<sup>1</sup> Κύπρι, τὸν ἀδέα μήτε κατ' ἄστυ  
 μήτ' ἐν ὄρει φιλέοι, μῶνα δ' ἀνὰ νύκτα καθεύδοι.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> μηδ' αἶ Wil. mss μηδ' αἶ or μηδὲ      <sup>2</sup> φιλέοι and καθεύδοι  
 Ahrens. mss φιλέοις and καθεύδοις

THEOCRITUS XX, 41-45

wandering bird for the sake of a lad o' the kine?  
Nay, 'twas left to mistress Eunice to deny a neatherd  
her love, this piece that is a greater than Cybelè and  
Cypris and the Lady Moon! Wherefore I beseech  
thee, sweet Cypris, the same may never more  
whether in upland or in lowland come at the love of  
her leman, but may lie lone and sleep sole for  
the rest of her days



## XXI —THE FISHERMEN

*THE poet begins with a dedication in the manner of XI, and passes quickly to his story. Two fishermen lie awake at night in their cabin on the shore, and one of them tells a dream he has just had of the catching of a golden fish. He asks his friend what the dream may mean, for he fears he may have to break his dream-oath that he would be a fisherman no longer. To this the friend replies that it was no oath he took, and that the moral of the dream is that his only wealth is of the sea. Many considerations go to show that the traditional ascription of the poem to Theocritus is mistaken.*

## XXI.—ΑΛΙΕΙΣ

Ἄ πενία Διόφαντε μόνα τὰς τέχνας ἐγείρει·  
αὐτὰ τῷ μόχθοιο διδάσκαλος· οὐδὲ γὰρ εὔδειν  
ἀνδράσιν ἐργατίναισι κακαὶ παρέχοντι μέριμναι.  
κἂν ὀλίγον νυκτός τις ἐπιβρίσσησι,<sup>1</sup> τὸν ὕπνον  
αἰφνίδιον θορυβεῦσιν ἐφιστάμεναι μελεδῶναι.

ἰχθύος ἀγρευτῆρες ὁμῶς δύο κεῖντο γέροντες  
στρωσάμενοι βρύον αἶον ὑπὸ πλεκταῖς καλύβαισι,  
κεκλιμένοι κοίτῃ ποτὶ φυλλίνῃ· ἐγγύθι δ' αὐτοῖν  
κεῖτο τὰ τῶν χειρῶν<sup>2</sup> ἀθλήματα, τοὶ καλαθίσκοι,  
τοὶ κάλαμοι, τᾶγκιστρα, τὰ φυκιοέντά τε λῖνα,<sup>3</sup>  
ὄρμιαὶ κύρτοι τε καὶ ἐκ σχοίνων λαβύρινοι,  
μήρινθοι κῶπα<sup>4</sup> τε γέρων τ' ἐπ' ἐρείσμασι λεμβος·  
νέρθεν τὰς κεφαλὰς φορμὸς βραχύς· εἴματα  
πύσσοι<sup>5</sup>

οὗτος τοῖς ἀλιεῦσιν ὁ πᾶς πόρος,<sup>6</sup> οὗτος ὁ πλοῦτος.  
οὐ κλειδ', οὐχὶ θύραν ἔχον,<sup>7</sup> οὐ κύνα· πάντα περισσὰ  
ταῦτ' ἐδόκει τήνοις· ἅ γὰρ πενία σφας ἐτήρει.<sup>8</sup>  
οὐδεὶς δ' ἐν μέσσω γείτων πέλεν· ἅ<sup>9</sup> δὲ παρ' αὐτὰν  
θλιβομένα<sup>10</sup> καλύβαν τρυφερὸν προσέναχε  
θάλασσα.

<sup>1</sup> ἐπιβρίσσησι Reiske · mss -βησέεισι <sup>2</sup> τῶν χειρῶν  
Musurus mss ταῖν (or ταῖς) χεροῖν or ταῖς χείρεσσιν <sup>3</sup> λῖνα  
E (already suspected by Wil), cf Mosch *fr* 3. 7, Headlam  
*Journal of Philol* 1907, p 315 others δελήτα mss λήγα  
<sup>4</sup> κῶπα Stroth-Kiessling: mss κῶα <sup>5</sup> πύσσοι 'thick  
(coats),' cf πυκνός, πύκα, ἄβυσσος, βύθος E: Fritzsche πύσοι,



## XXI —THE FISHERMEN

THERE's but one starrer-up of the crafts, Diophantus, and her name is Poverty. She is the true teacher of labour; for a man of toil may not so much as sleep for the disquietude of his heart. Nay, if he nod ever so little o' nights, then is his slumber broke suddenly short by the cares that beset him.

One night against the leafy wall of a wattled cabin there lay together upon a bed of dry tangle two old catchers of fish. Beside them were laid the instruments of their calling: their creels, their rods, their hooks, their weedy nets and lines, their weels and rush-woven lobster-pots, some net-ropes, a pair of oars, and upon its props an aged coble. Beneath their heads lay a little mat, and for coverlets they had their jackets of frieze. This was all the means and all the riches of these poor fishermen. Key, door, watchdog, had they none, all such things were ill-store to the likes of them, seeing in that house kept Poverty watch and ward; neither dwelt there any neighbour at their gates, but the very cabin-walls were hemmed by the soft and delicate up-flowing of the sea.

Musurus *πίλοι*. mss *πίσοι* <sup>6</sup> *πόρος* Koehler mss *πόρος* from line 20 <sup>7</sup> *οὐ κλειῖδ'* Buecheler. mss *οὐδεὶς δ'* from below *οὐχὶ θύραν* Briggs. mss *οὐ χύθραν* *ἔχον* Kaibel: mss *εἶχ'* <sup>8</sup> *ταῦτ'* Wil mss *πάντ'* *ἂ γὰρ* Reiske. mss *ἔγχα* *ἐτήρει* Ahrens. mss *ἐτέρη* <sup>9</sup> *πέλεν* *ἂ* Reiske; mss *πενία* from above <sup>10</sup> *θλιβομένα* Reiske, mss *-ναν*

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κοῦπω τὸν μέσατον δρόμον ἄννευ ἄρμα Σελάνας,  
τοὺς δ' ἄλιεῖς ἤγειρε φίλος πόνος, ἐκ βλεφάρων δὲ 21)  
ὑπνον ἀπωσάμενος σφετέραις φρεσὶν ἤρεθεν αὐδάν.<sup>1</sup>

### ΑΣΦΑΛΙΩΝ

ψεύδοντ' ὦ φίλε πάντες, ὅσοι τὰς νύκτας ἔφασκον  
τῷ θέρεος μινύθειν, ὅτε τᾶματα μακρὰ φέρουσιν.  
ἤδη μυρὶ ἐσεῖδον ὀνείρατα, κοῦδέπω ἄως.  
ἦ λαθόμεν, τί τὸ χρήμα χρόνου ταῖ<sup>2</sup> νύκτες ἔχοντι,

### ΕΤΑΙΡΟΣ

Ἀσφαλίων, μέμφη τὸ καλὸν θέρος· οὐ γὰρ ὁ καιρὸς  
αὐτομάτως παρέβη τὸν ἐὼν δρόμον· ἀλλὰ τὸν ὑπνον  
ἀ φροντὶς κόπτοισα μακρὰν τὰν νύκτα ποιεῖ τοι.<sup>3</sup>

### ΑΣΦΑΛΙΩΝ

ἄρ' ἔμαθες κρίνειν πόκ' ἐνύπνια; χρηστὰ γὰρ εἶδον.  
οὐ σε θέλω τῶμῳ φαντάσματος ἦμεν ἄμοιρον. 30

### ΕΤΑΙΡΟΣ

ὥς καὶ τὰν ἄγραν, τῶνείρατα πάντα μερίζου.  
οὐ γάρ σ' εἰκάξω κατὰ τὸν λόγον,<sup>4</sup> οὗτος ἄριστος  
ἐστὶν ὀνειροκρίτας, ὁ διδάσκαλός ἐστι παρ' ᾧ νοῦς.  
ἄλλως<sup>5</sup> καὶ σχολὰ ἐντι· τί γὰρ ποιεῖν ἂν ἔχοι τις  
κείμενος ἐν φύλλοις ποτὶ κύματι μηδὲ καθεύδων,  
ἀλλ' ὄνος ἐν ῥάμνῳ τό τε λύχνιον ἐν πρυτανείῳ·  
φαντὶ γὰρ ἀγρυπνίαν<sup>6</sup> τάδ' ἔχειν. λέγε· ὅποτε  
νυκτὸς

ὄψιν πᾶς τις ἐφ' γε φιλεῖ<sup>7</sup> μανύεν ἐταίρῳ.

<sup>1</sup> ἀπωσάμενος and ἤρεθεν E. mss ἀπωσάμενοι and ἤρεθον αὐδάν I. H. Voss: mss φῶδαν <sup>2</sup> ἦ E mss μὴ χρόνου ταῖ Martin. mss χρόιον δ' αἰ <sup>3</sup> ποιεῖ τοι Hermann mss ποιεῖντι <sup>4</sup> σ' εἰκάξω E. mss νικάξω, a correction following on the corruption of λόγον λόγον E. mss νόον, originally an incorrect gloss on λόγον <sup>5</sup> ἄλλως Musurus. mss ἄλλος  
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## THEOCRITUS XXI, 19-38

Now or ever the chariot of the Moon was half-way of its course, the fishermen's labour and trouble did rouse them, and thrusting slumber from their eyelids stirred up speech in their hearts.

### ASPHALION

It seems they speak not true, friend, that say the summer nights grow less when they bring us the long days. Already I have had a thousand dreams, and the dawn is not yet. Or am I wrong when I say how long the watches of these nights are?

### FRIEND

Asphalion, the pretty summer deserves not thy fault-finding. 'Tis not that Time hath truly and in himself over-run his course, but Care makes thy night long by curtailing thy slumber.

### ASPHALION

Hast ever learnt to interpret a dream? I've had a good one this night, and am fain thou go shares in't

### FRIEND

Aye, we share our catch, and e'en let's share all our dreams. For shall I not be making conjecture of thee according to the saying, the best interpreter of dreams is he that learns of understanding? And what's more, we have time and to spare, for there's little enough for a man to do lying sleepless in a greenbed beside the sea. 'Faith, 'tis the ass in the thorns and the lamp in the town-hall, and they are the morals for waking. Come, thy dream, for a friend, look you, is always told a man's dreams

• σχολά ἐντι Reiske mss σχολοντι <sup>6</sup> ἀγρυπνίαν Reiske :  
mss ἄγραν λέγε <sup>5</sup> ὅποτε E, cf 15. 32 and 24. 130. mss  
λέγεο (or λέγω) ποτε <sup>7</sup> πῶς τις ἐφ' ἣ γε φιλεῖ E mss τὰ τις  
ἔσσεο δὲ λέγει (from λέγειν originally a gloss on μάνυνε)

“The morals for waking” i.e. ‘proverbial for keeping awake’

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## ΑΣΦΑΛΙΩΝ

δειλινὸν ὥς κατέδαρθον ἐπ' εἰναλίοισι πόνοισιν  
 (οὐκ ἦν μὰν πολύσιτος, ἐπεὶ δειπνεῦντες ἐν ὥρᾳ, 40  
 εἰ μέμνη, τὰς γαστρὸς ἐφειδόμεθ') εἶδον ἐμαυτὸν  
 ἐν πέτρᾳ μεμαῶτα, καθεζόμενος δ' ἐδόκευον  
 ἰχθύας, ἐκ καλάμῳ<sup>1</sup> δὲ πλάνον κατέσειον ἐδωδάν.  
 καί τις τῶν τραφερῶν ὠρέξατο· καὶ γὰρ ἐν ὕπνοις  
 πᾶσα κύων ἄρκον<sup>2</sup> μαντεύεται, ἰχθύα κηγών.  
 χῶ μὲν τῶγκίστρῳ ποτεφύετο, καὶ ῥέεν αἶμα,  
 τὸν κάλαμον δ' ὑπὸ τῷ κινήματος ἀγκύλον εἶχον  
 τᾷ χερὶ τεινόμενον, περικλώμενον,<sup>3</sup> εὐρὺν ἀγῶνα,  
 πῶς μελετῶ<sup>4</sup> μέγαν ἰχθὺν ἀφαιροτέροισι σιδάροις.  
 εἴθ' ὑπομιμνάσκων τῷ τρώματος ἡρέμ'<sup>5</sup> ἔνυξα, 50  
 καὶ νύξας ἐχάλαξα, καὶ οὐ φεύγοντος ἔτεινα.  
 ἦνυσσα δ' ὦν τὸν ἄεθλον. ἀνείλκυσα χρύσειον ἰχθύν,  
 πάντα τοι χρυσῷ πεπυκασμένον· εἶχέ με δεῖμα,<sup>6</sup>  
 μήτι Ποσειδάωνι πέλει πεφιλημένος ἰχθὺς  
 ἢ τάχα τὰς γλαυκᾶς κειμήλιον Ἀμφιτρίτης.  
 ἡρέμα δ' αὐτὸν ἐγὼν ἐκ τῶγκίστρῳ ἀπέλυσσα,  
 μή ποτε τῷ στόματος τῶγκίστρια χρυσὸν ἔχοιεν.<sup>7</sup>  
 τὸν μὲν ἐπιστὰς ᾄσα καλάγρετον ἀπειρώταν,<sup>8</sup>  
 ὦμοσα δ' οὐκέτι λοιπὸν ὑπὲρ πελάγους πόδα θεῖναι,  
 ἀλλὰ μενεῖν ἐπὶ γᾶς καὶ τῷ χρυσῷ βασιλεύσειν. 60

<sup>1</sup> καλάμῳ Valckenaer mss -ων <sup>2</sup> ἄρκον = ἄρκτον E, cf. Herwerden *Lex Suppl*: mss ἄρκτον or ἄρκτω <sup>3</sup> τᾷ χερὶ E mss τῷ χέρε For asyndeton cf Longus 3 34 <sup>4</sup> μελετῶ E, cf. Hipp *eg* 554 31 to 'treat' a patient mss μὲν ἔλω <sup>5</sup> ἡρέμα E<sup>1</sup>dik mss ἄρ' ἐμέ <sup>6</sup> με Mus. mss δὲ or σε δεῖμα Mus: mss σῆμα <sup>7</sup> ἔχοιεν Mus. mss ἔχοντι or ἔχοισα

# THEOCRITUS XXI, 39-60

## ASPHALION

When I fell asleep last night after my labours o' the sea—and faith, 'twas not for fulness, if you mind, seeing we supped early to give our bellies short commons—I dreamt I was hard at my work upon a rock, seated watching for the fish and dangling my piece of deception from my rod's end, when there rose me a right gallant fellow—for mark you, I surmise a fish as a sleeping dog will a bear—, well hooked too, for 'a showed blood, and my rod all bended wi' the pull of him, bended straining and bowing in my hand, insomuch that I questioned me sore how I was to deal with so great a fish with so weak tools to my hand. Howbeit I gently pricked him to mind him o' the hook, and pricking let him have line, and when he ran not away showed him the butt. Now was the prize mine I drew up a golden fish, a fish smothered in gold, such indeed that I feared me lest he were a fish favoured of Poseidon, or mayhap a treasured possession of sea-green Amphitritè; aye, and unhooked him very carefully and slow lest ever the tackle should come away with gold from his mouth. Then, standing over, I sang the praises of that my glorious catch, my seaman made laudsman, and sware I'd nevermore set foot o' the sea, but I would rest ashore rather and king it there with my gold. And

<sup>8</sup> τὸν μὲν ἐπιστὰς ᾄσα E, cf 12 23 mss καὶ τὸν μὲν πιστεύ-  
 σασα καλὰ γρετον Ribbeck mss καλὰ γε τὸν ἀπειρώταν  
 Hermann; cf Timoth *Pers* 44 νησιώτας mss ἡπήρατον

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“Let him have line”. not, of course, from a reel.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ταῦτά με κἀξήγειρε, τὸ δ' ὦ ξένε λοιπὸν ἔρειδε  
τὰν γινώμαν· ὄρκον γὰρ ἐγὼ τὸν ἐπώμοσα—

ΕΤΑΙΡΟΣ

θάρρει,<sup>1</sup>

καὶ σύγε μὴ<sup>2</sup> τρέσσης· οὐκ ὤμοσας· οὐδὲ γὰρ  
ἰχθύν  
χρύσειον ὡς ἶδες εἶδες· ἴσα δ' ἐν ψεύδεσι νῶσις·<sup>3</sup>  
εἰ γὰρ μὴ κνώσσω τὸ τὰ χωρία ταῦτα<sup>4</sup> ματεύεις,  
ἔλπις τῶν ὕπνων· ζάτει τὸν σάρκινον ἰχθύν,  
μὴ σὺ θάνης λιμῷ καὶ χρυσείοισιν<sup>5</sup> ὀνείροις.

<sup>1</sup> θάρρει E others, giving it to Asph, ταρβῶ mss θαρρῶ  
<sup>2</sup> σύγε μὴ Mus, cf 10 34: mss σύγε ἰδες εἶδες E. mss  
εἶδες εἶδες ἐν ψεύδεσι νῶσις E, cf 25 263 and 17. 60  
others ἦν (or ἐν) ψεύδεσιν ὕψις mss ἐν ψεύδεσιν ὕψις <sup>4</sup> γὰρ  
μὴ E: mss με γὰρ τὸ τὰ Mus mss τοῦτο or τούτου  
<sup>5</sup> καὶ χρυσείοισιν E mss καίτοι χρυσοῖσιν

## THEOCRITUS XXI, 61-67

with that I awoke And now, good friend, it remains  
for you to lend me your understanding; for troth,  
that oath I sware—

### FRIEND

Be of good cheer, never you fear that. 'Twas no  
swearing when you sware that oath any more than  
'twas seeing when you saw the golden fish. Howbeit  
there's wisdom to be had of empty shows, for if you  
will make real and waking search in these places  
there's hope of your sleep and your dreams. Go  
seek the fish of flesh and blood, or you'll die of  
hunger and golden visions

“There's hope of your dreams” ‘hope of your getting  
some advantage from them.’





## XXII —THE DIOSCURI

*THIS hymn to Castor and Polydeuces consists, first, of a prelude common to both, and secondly, of two main parts concerned one with Polydeuces and the other with Castor. The first of these, in a combination of the Epic style with the dialogue, tells how Polydeuces fought fisticuffs with Amycus on his way to Colchis, and the second how, when the brothers carried off the daughters of Leucippus, Castor fought Lynceus with spear and sword.*

## XXII.—ΤΜΝΟΣ ΕΙΣ ΔΙΟΣΚΟΤΡΟΣ

Ὑμνέομεν Λήδας τε καὶ αἰγιόχου Διὸς υἱῶ,  
 Κάστορα καὶ φοβερὸν Πολυδεύκεα πύξ ἐρεθίζειν  
 χεῖρας ἐπιζεύξαντα μέσας βοέοισιν ἱμάσιν.  
 ὑμνέομεν καὶ δις καὶ τὸ τρίτον ἄρσενα τέκνα  
 κούρης Θεστιάδος, Λακεδαιμονίους δὺ' ἀδελφούς,  
 ἀνθρώπων σωτήρας ἐπὶ ξυροῦ ἤδη ἐόντων,  
 ἵππων θ' αἵματόεντα ταρασσομένων καθ' ὄμιλον,  
 νηῶν θ', αἱ δύνοντα καὶ οὐρανὸν εἰσανιόντα<sup>1</sup>  
 ἄστρο βιαζόμεναι χαλεποῖς ἐνέκυρσαν ἀήταις·  
 οἱ δέ σφεων κατὰ πρύμναν αἰείραντες μέγα κῦμα  
 ἦε καὶ ἐκ πρῶρηθεν ἡ ὄππη θυμὸς ἐκάστου  
 ἐς κοίλην ἔρριψαν, ἀνέρρηξαν δ' ἄρα τοίχους  
 ἀμφοτέρους· κρέμαται δὲ σὺν ἰστίῳ ἄρμενα πάντα  
 εἰκῇ ἀποκλασθέντα· πολὺς δ' ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ὄμβρος  
 νυκτὸς ἐφερπούσης· παταγεῖ δ' εὐρεῖα θάλασσα,  
 κοπτομένη πνοιαῖς τε καὶ ἀρρήκτοισι χαλάζαις.  
 ἀλλ' ἔμπης ὑμεῖς γε καὶ ἐκ βυθοῦ ἔλκετε νῆας  
 αὐτοῖσιν ναύτησιν ὀιομένοις θανέεσθαι·  
 αἰψα δ' ἀπολήγοντ' ἄνεμοι, λιπαρὴ δὲ γαλήνη  
 ἄμ πέλαγος· νεφέλαι δὲ διέδραμον ἄλλυδις ἄλλαι·  
 ἐκ δ' Ἄρκτοι τ' ἐφάνησαν, Ὀνων τ' ἀνὰ μέσσον  
 ἀμαυρῇ  
 Φάτνη σημαίνουσα τὰ πρὸς πλόον εὐδία πάντα.  
 ὦ ἄμφω θνητοῖσι βοηθόι, ὦ φίλοι ἄμφω,

<sup>1</sup> οὐρανὸν εἰσανιόντα Meineke . mss οὐρανοῦ ἐξανιόντα

## XXII —THE HYMN TO THE DIOSCURI

OUR song is of the sons of Leda and the Aegis-Bearer, Castor to wit and with him Polydeuces, that dire wielder of the fist and of the wrist-harness of the leathern throng. Twice is our song and thrice of the boys of Thestius' daughter, the two Spartan brethren which wont to save both men that are come upon the brink and horses that are beset in the bloody press; aye, and ships also, that because they sail in despite of rise or set of the stars do fall upon evil gales, which, or fore or aft or where they list, upraise a great surge, and both hurl it into the hold and rive with it their timbers whether on this side or on that. Then hang sail and shroud by the board; and night comes, and with it a great storm from the sky, and the broad sea rattles and plashes with the battery of the blast and of the irresistible hail. But for all that, ye, even ye, do draw both ship and despairing shipmen from out the hell, the winds abate, the sea puts on a shining calm, the clouds run asunder this way and that way; till out come the Bears peeping, and betwixt the Asses lo' that Manger so dim, which betokens all fair for voyaging on the sea. O helpers twain of men, O friends both of mortals, O horseman helpers, O

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἰππῆες κιθαρισταί, ἀεθλητῆρες ἀοιδοί·  
Κάστορος ἢ πρώτου Πολυδεύκεος ἄρξομ' αἰεῖδεν ;  
ἀμφοτέρους ὑμνέων Πολυδεύκεα πρῶτον αἰείσω.

ἦ μὲν ἄρα προφυγοῦσα πέτρας εἰς ἐν ξυνιούσας  
Ἄργῳ καὶ νιφόεντος ἀταρτηρὸν στόμα Πόντου,  
Βέβρυκας εἰσαφίκανε θεῶν φίλα τέκνα φέρουσα.  
ἔνθα μίης πολλοὶ κατὰ κλίμακος ἀμφοτέρων ἔξ  
τοίχων ἄνδρες ἔβαινον Ἰησούνιης ἀπὸ νηός,  
ἐκβάντες δ' ἐπὶ θίνα βαθύν καὶ ὑπῆνεμον ἀκτὴν  
εὐνὰς τ' ἐστόρνυντο πυρεῖά τε χερσὶν ἐνώμων.  
Κάστωρ δ' αἰολόπωλος ὃ τ' οἶνωπὸς Πολυδεύκης  
ἄμφω ἐρημάζεσκον ἀποπλαγχθέντες ἐταίρων,  
παντοίῳ ἐν ὄρει θηέμενοι ἄγριον ὕλην.  
εὖρον δ' ἀέναον κρήνην ὑπὸ λισσάδι πέτρῃ  
ὑδατι πεπληθυῖαν ἀκηράτῳ· αἱ δ' ὑπένερθεν  
λάλλαι<sup>1</sup> κρυστάλλῳ ἢ δ' ἀργύρῳ ἰνδύλλοντο  
ἐκ βυθοῦ· ὑψηλαὶ δὲ πεφύκεσαν ἀγχόθι πεῦκαι  
λευκαὶ τε πλάτανοί τε καὶ ἀκρόκομοι κυπάρισσοι,  
ἄνθεά τ' εὐώδη, λασίαις φίλα ἔργα μελίσσαις,  
ὅσ' ἔαρος λήγοντος ἐπιβρύει ἂν λειμῶνας.  
ἔνθα δ' ἄνῃρ ὑπέροπλος ἐνήμενος ἐνδιάασκε,  
δεινὸς ἰδεῖν, σκληρῇσι τεθλασμένος οὐατα πυγ-  
μαῖς·

στήθεα δ' ἐσφαίρωτο πελώρια καὶ πλατὺ νῶτον  
σαρκὶ σιδηρεῖῃ σφυρήλατος οἶα κολοσσός.  
ἐν δὲ μῦες στερεοῖσι βραχίουσιν ἄκρον ὑπ' ὦμον  
ἔστασαν ἡύτε πέτροι ὀλοίτροχοι, οὔστε κυλίνδων  
χειμάρρους ποταμὸς μεγάλαις περιέξεσε δίναις·  
αὐτὰρ ὑπὲρ νώτοιο καὶ αὐχένος ἤωρεῖτο  
ἄκρων δέρμα λέοντος ἀφημμένον ἐκ ποδεῶνων.

<sup>1</sup> λάλλαι Ruhnken mss ἄλλαι

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 24-52

boxer bards, whether of Castor first or Polydeuces shall I sing? Be my song of both, and yet the beginning of it of Polydeuces

The Together-coming Rocks were safely passed and the baleful mouth of the snowy Pontic entered, and Argo with the dear children of the Gods aboard her had made the country of the Bebrycians. Down the ladders on either side went crowding the men of Jason's ship, and soon as they were out upon the soft deep sand of that lee shore, set to making them greenbeds and rubbing fire-sticks for fire. Then went Castor of the nimble coursers and Polydeuces ruddy as the wine together wandering afield from the rest, for to see the wild woodland of all manner of trees among the hills. Now beneath a certain slabby rock they did find a freshet brimming ever with water pure and clear. The pebbles at the bottom of it were like to silver and crystal, and long and tall there grew beside it, as well firs and poplars and planes and spiry cypresses, as all fragrant flowers which abound in the meadows of outgoing spring to be loved and laboured of the shag bee. In that place there sat taking the air a man both huge and terrible. His ears were crushed shapeless of the hard fist, and his giant breast and great broad back were orbed with iron flesh like a sledge-wrought effigy; moreover the sinews upon his brawny arms upstood beside the shoulder like the boulder-stones some torrent hath rolled and rounded in his swirling eddies; and, to end all, over his neck and about his back there was hung by the claws a swinging lion-skin.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τὸν πρότερος προσέειπεν ἀθλοφόρος Πολυδεύκης·  
Χαῖρε ξεῖν', ὅτις ἐσσί. τίνες βροτοί, ὦν ὅδε  
χῶρος;

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

χαίρω πῶς, ὅτε τ' ἄνδρας ὀρώ, τοὺς μὴ πρὶν  
ὄπωπα;

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΚΗΣ

θάρσει. μήτ' ἀδίκους μήτ' ἐξ ἀδίκων φάθι λεύσ-  
σειν.

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

θαρσέω, κοῦκ ἐκ σεῦ με διδάσκεσθαι τόδ' ἔοικεν.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΚΗΣ

ἄγριος εἰ πρὸς πάντα παλίνκοτος ἡδ' <sup>1</sup> ὑπερόπτης;

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

τοιόσδ' οἶον ὀρᾶς· τῆς σῆς γέ μεν οὐκ ἐπιβαίνω.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΚΗΣ

ἔλθοις, καὶ ξενίων κε <sup>2</sup> τυχὼν πάλιν οἴκαδ' ἰκάνοις.

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

μήτε σύ με ξείνιζε, τά τ' ἐξ ἐμεῦ οὐκ ἐν ἐτοίμῳ.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΚΗΣ

δαιμόνι', οὐδ' ἂν τοῦδε πιεῖν ὕδατος σύγῃ δοίης ;

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

γνώσσαι, εἴπ' σε δίψος ἀνειμένα χεῖλα τέρση.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ἡδ' Hemsterhuys. mss ἡ <sup>2</sup> κε Ahrens · mss γκ <sup>3</sup> εὔτέ  
σε Wil mss εἴ σου τέρση Wil mss τέρσει

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 53-63

First spoke the champion Polydeuces. 'Whoever you may be, Sir,' says he, 'I bid you good morrow. Pray tell me what people possesseth this country.'

AMYCUS

Is it good-morrow, quotha, when I see strangers before me ?

POLYDEUCES

Be of good cheer. Trust me, we be no evil men nor come we of evil stock

AMYCUS

Of right good cheer am I, and knew it or ever I learnt it of you.

POLYDEUCES

Pray are you a man o' the wilds, a churl come what may, a mere piece of disdain ?

AMYCUS

I am what you see; and that's no goer upon other's ground, when all's said

POLYDEUCES

Come you upon my ground and welcome; you shall not go away empty

AMYCUS

I'll none of your welcomes and you shall none of mine.

POLYDEUCES

Lord, man ' would you have me denied even a drink of this water ?

AMYCUS

That shall you know when there comes you the parching languor o' thirst on the lips

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΤΚΗΣ

ἄργυρος ἢ τίς ὁ μισθός· ἐρεῖς, ᾧ κέν σε πίθοιμεν.

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

εἷς ἐνὶ χεῖρας ἄειρον ἐναντίος ἀνδρὶ καταστάς.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΤΚΗΣ

πυγμαῖχος, ἢ καὶ ποσσὶ θένω σκέλος; ὄμματα δ'  
ὀρθά.<sup>1</sup>

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

πύξ διατεινόμενος σφετέρης μὴ φείδω τέχνης.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΤΚΗΣ

τίς γάρ, ὅτῃ χεῖρας καὶ ἐμοὺς συνερείσω ἱμάντας;

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

ἐγγὺς ὀράς· οὐ γύννις ἐὼν<sup>2</sup> κεκλήσεθ' ὁ πύκτης.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΤΚΗΣ

ἦ καὶ ἄελθον ἐτοῖμον, ἐφ' ᾧ δηρὶσόμεθ' ἄμφω,

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

σὸς μὲν ἐγώ, σὺ δ' ἐμὸς κεκλήσεαι, αἶ κε κρατήσω.

ΠΟΛΥΔΕΥΤΚΗΣ

ὀρνίθων φοινικολόφων τοιοῖδε κυδοιμοί.

ΑΜΥΚΟΣ

εἴτ' οὖν ὀρνίθεσσιν ἑοικότες εἴτε λέουσι  
γινόμεθ', οὐκ ἄλλω κε μαχεσσαίμεσθ' ἐπ' ἀέθλῳ.

ἦ ῥ' Ἀμυκος, καὶ κόχλον ἐλὼν μυκήσατο κοίλῃν  
οὐ δὲ θοῶς συνάγερθεν ὑπὸ σκιερὰς πλατανίστους

<sup>1</sup> θένω Wil mss θένων οἱ θεων mss also ὀρθὺς the meaning is doubtful <sup>2</sup> γύννις ἐλόν mss also σὺ με ἄμους



## THEOCRITUS XXII, 64-76

POLYDEUCES

Would you silver or aught else for price? Say  
what you'll take.

AMYCUS

Up hands and fight me man against man.

POLYDEUCES

Fisticuffs is 't? or feet and all? mind you, I have  
a good eye

AMYCUS

Fists be it, and you may do all your best and  
cunningest

POLYDEUCES

But who is he for whom I am to bind thong to  
arm?

AMYCUS

You see him nigh; the man that shall fight you  
may be called a woman, but 'faith, shall not deserve  
the name.

POLYDEUCES

And pray is there a prize we may contend for in  
this our match?

AMYCUS

Whethersoever shall win shall have the other to  
his possession

POLYDEUCES

But such be the mellays of the red-crested game-  
cock

AMYCUS

Whether we be like cock or lion there shall be no  
fight betwixt us on any other stake

With these words Amycus took and blared upon  
his hollow shell, and quickly in answer to his call

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κόχλου φυσηθέντος ἀλεῖ<sup>1</sup> Βέβρυκες κομόωντες.  
 ὥς δ' αὐτως ἥρωας ἰὼν ἐκαλέσσατο πάντας  
 Μαγνήσσης ἀπὸ νηὸς ὑπείροχος ἐν δαλὶ Κάστωρ.  
 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν σπείρησιν ἐκαρτύναντο βοείαις  
 χεῖρας καὶ περὶ γυῖα μακροὺς εἴλιξαν ἱμάντας,  
 ἐς μέσσον σύναγον φόνον ἀλλήλοισι πνέοντες.

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ἔνθα πολὺς σφισι μόχθος ἐπειγομένοισιν ἐτύχθη,  
 ὀππότερος κατὰ νῶτα λάβοι φάος ἡελίοιο·  
 ἰδρεῖη μέγαν ἄνδρα παρήλυθες ὦ Πολύδευκες,  
 βάλλετο δ' ἀκτίνεσσιν ἅπαν Ἀμύκιο πρόσωπον.  
 αὐτὰρ ὄγ' ἐν θυμῷ κεχολωμένος ἔieto πρόσω,  
 χερσὶ τιτυσκόμενος. τοῦ δ' ἄκρον τύψε γένειον  
 Τυνδαρίδης ἐπιόντος· ὀρίνθη δὲ πλέον ἢ πρίν,  
 σὺν δὲ μάχην ἐτάραξε,<sup>2</sup> πολὺς δ' ἐπέκειτο νενευκῶς 90  
 ἐς γαῖαν. Βέβρυκες δ' ἐπαύτεον, οἱ δ' ἐτέρωθεν  
 ἥρωες κρατερὸν Πολυδεύκεα θαρσύνεσκον,  
 δειδιότες μή πῶς μιν ἐπιβρίσας δαμάσειε  
 χώρῳ ἐνι στεινῷ Τιτυῷ ἐναλίγκιος ἀνὴρ.  
 ἦτοι ὄγ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα παριστάμενος<sup>3</sup> Διὸς υἱὸς  
 ἀμφοτέρησιν ἔνυσσεν<sup>4</sup> ἀμοιβαδῖς, ἔσχεθε δ' ὄρμης  
 παῖδα Ποσειδάωνος ὑμερφιάλόν περ ἑόντα.  
 ἔστη δὲ πληγαῖς μεθύων, ἐκ δ' ἐπτυσεν αἷμα  
 φοίνιον· οἱ δ' ἅμα πάντες ἀριστῆες κελάδησαν,  
 ὥς ἴδον ἔλκεα λυγρὰ περὶ στόμα τε γναθμούς τε· 100  
 ὄμματα δ' οἰδήσαντος ἀπεστείνωτο προσώπου.  
 τὸν μὲν ἀναξ ἐτάρασεν ἐτώσια χερσὶ προδεικνὺς

<sup>1</sup> ἀλεῖ 'thickly' E, see *Gloss Rev* mss ἀεῖ <sup>2</sup> mss also ἐτίναξε <sup>3</sup> mss also περιστ <sup>4</sup> ἔνυσσεν Herwerden mss ἔμυσσεν or ἔτυψεν

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 77-102

came the thick-haired Bebrycians and gathered themselves together beneath the shady platans. And in like manner all the heroes of the ship of Magnesia were fetched of Castor the peerless man-o'-war. And so the twain braced their hands with the leathern coils and twined the long straps about their arms, and foith and entered the ring breathing slaughter each against the other

Now was there much ado which should have the sunshine at his back ; but the cunning of my Polydeuces outwent a mighty man, and those beams did fall full in Amycus his face. So goes master Amycus in high dudgeon forward with many outs and levellings o's fists. But the child of Tyndareus was ready, and caught him a blow on the point o' the chin ; the which did the more prick him on and make him to betumble his fighting, so that he went in head-down and full-tilt. At that the Bebrycians holla'd him on, and they of the other part cried cheerly unto the stalwart Polydeuces for fear this Tityus of a man should haply overpeise him and so bear him down in that narrow room. But the son of Zeus stood up to him first on this side and then on that, and touched him left and right and left again ; and for all his puissance the child of Poseidon was stayed in 's onset, insomuch that he stood all drunken with his drubbing and spit out the crimson blood. Whereat all the mighty men gave joyful tongue together by reason of the grievous bruises he had both by cheek and jowl, for his eyes were all too straitened with the puffing of their sockets. Next did my lord maze his man awhile with sundry feints and

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

πάντεςθεν· ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ μιν ἀμηχανέοντ' ἐνόησε,  
 μέσσης ῥινὸς ὑπερθε κατ' ὀφρύος ἤλασε πυγμῇ,<sup>1</sup>  
 πᾶν δ' ἀπέσυρε μέτωπον ἐς ὀστέον. αὐτὰρ δὲ  
 πληγαῖς

ὑπτιος ἐν φύλλοισι τεθηλόσιν ἐξετανύσθη.

ἔνθα μάχῃ δριμεῖα πάλιν γένητ' ὀρθωθέντος·  
 ἀλλήλους δ' ὄλεκον στερεοῖς θείνοντες ἰμάσιν.  
 ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐς στήθός τε καὶ ἔξω χεῖρας ἐνώμα  
 αὐχένος ἀρχηγὸς Βεβρύκων· ὁ δ' αἰκέσι πληγαῖς 110  
 πᾶν συνέφυρε πρόσωπον<sup>2</sup> ἀνίκητος Πολυδεύκης.  
 σάρκες τῷ<sup>3</sup> μὲν ἰδρῶτι συνίζανον, ἐκ μεγάλου δὲ  
 αἵψ' ὀλίγος γένητ' ἀνδρός· ὁ δ' αἰεὶ πᾶσσονα γυῖα  
 αὐξομένου<sup>4</sup> φορέεσκε πόνου καὶ χροῖῃ ἀμείνω.

πῶς γὰρ δὴ Διὸς υἱὸς ἀδηφάγον ἄνδρα καθεῖλεν;  
 εἰπὲ θεά, σὺ γὰρ οἶσθα· ἐγὼ δ' ἐτέρων ὑποφήτης  
 φθέγξομαι ὅσσ'<sup>5</sup> ἐθέλεις σύ, καὶ ὅπως τοι φίλον  
 αὐτῇ.

ἦτοι ὄγε ῥέξαι τι λιλαιόμενος μέγα ἔργον  
 σκαιῇ μὲν σκαιὴν Πολυδεύκεος ἔλλαβε χεῖρα,  
 δοχμὸς ἀπὸ προβολῆς κλυθείς, ἐτέρῃ δ' ἐπιβαίνων 120  
 δεξιτερῆς ἤνεγκεν ἀπὸ λαγόνος πλατὺ γυῖον.  
 καὶ κε τυχὼν ἔβλαψεν Ἀμυκλαίων βασιλῆα·  
 ἀλλ' ὅγ' ὑπεξανέδυ κεφαλῇ,<sup>6</sup> στιβαρῇ δ' ἄμα χειρὶ  
 πληῆξεν ὑπὸ σκαιὸν κρόταφον καὶ ἐπέμπεσεν ὦμω·  
 ἐκ δ' ἐχύθη μέλαν αἷμα θοῶς κροτάφοιο χανόντος  
 λαιῇ δὲ στόμα κόψε, πυκνοὶ δ' ἀράβησαν ὀδόντες·

<sup>1</sup> mss also πυγμῇν    <sup>2</sup> mss also μέτωπον    <sup>3</sup> τᾷ Meineke  
 mss δ' αἰ or δ' οἰ    <sup>4</sup> αὐξομένου Mein    mss ἅπτ    ἀμείνω  
 Τουρ mss -ων    <sup>5</sup> ὅσσ'    mss also ὥς    <sup>6</sup> mss also κεφαλῇ

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 103-126

divers passes all about, and then, so soon as he had him all abroad, let drive at the very middle of his nose, flattened the face of him to the bone, and laid him flatlong amid the springing flowers

His rising was the renewing of the fray, and a bitter one, aye, now were those swingeing iron gloves to fight unto death. The high lord of Bebrycia, he was all for the chest and none for the head; but as for the never-to-be-beaten Polydeuces, he was for pounding and braying the face with ugly shameful blows: and lo' the flesh of the one began to shrink with the sweating, and eftsoons was a great man made a little, but even as the other's labour increased, so waxed his limbs ever more full and round and his colour ever better

Now Muse, I pray thee tell—for thou knowest it—how the child of Zeus destroyed that glutton; and he that plays thy interpreter will say what thou wilt and even as thou choosest.

Then did Amycus, as who should achieve some great thing, come from his ward and with his left hand grasp Polydeuces' left, and going in with the other, drive the flat of his hand from his right flank. And had the blow come home, he had wrought harm to the king of Amyclae. But lo' my lord slips his head aside and the same moment struck out forthright from the shoulder and smote him under the left temple, and from that gaping temple the red blood came spirting. Then his left hand did beat him in the mouth, so that the rows of teeth in't

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

αἰεὶ δ' ὀξύτέρῳ πιτύλῳ δηλεῖτο πρόσωπον,  
 μέχρι συνηλοίησε παρήια. πᾶς δ' ἐπὶ γαίῃ<sup>1</sup>  
 κεῖτ' ἄλλοφρονέων, καὶ ἀνέσχεθε νεῖκος ἀπαυδῶν  
 ἀμφοτέρας ἅμα χεῖρας, ἐπεὶ θανάτου σχεδὸν ἦεν. 130  
 τὸν μὲν ἄρα κρατέων περ ἀτάσθαλον οὐδὲν ἔρεξας,  
 ὦ πύκτῃ Πολύδευκες· ὁμοσσε δέ το μέγαν ὄρκον,  
 ὃν πατέρ' ἐκ πόντοιο Ποσειδάωνα κικλήσκων,  
 μήποτ' ἔτι ξείνοισιν ἐκὼν ἀνιηρὸς ἔσσεσθαι.

καὶ σὺ μὲν ὕμνησαί μοι ἄναξ. σὲ δὲ Κάστορ  
 αἰείσω,

Τυνδαρίδῃ ταχύπῳλε δορυσσόε χαλκεοθώρηξ.

τῷ μὲν ἀναρπάξαντε δύω φερέτην Διὸς υἱὴν  
 δοιᾶς Λευκίπποιο κόρας· δισσῶ δ' ἄρα τώγε  
 ἐσσυμένως ἐδίωκον ἀδελφεὸν υἱ' Ἀφαρῆος,  
 γαμβρὸν μελλογάμῳ, Λυγκεὺς καὶ ὁ καρτερὸς Ἴδας. 140  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε τύμβον ἵκανον ἀποφθιμένον Ἀφαρῆος,  
 ἐκ δίφρων ἄρα βάντες ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ὄρουσαν,  
 ἔγχεσι καὶ κοίλοισι βαρυνόμενοι σακέεσσι.  
 Λυγκεὺς δ' αὖ μετέειπεν ὑπὲκ κόρυθος μέγ' αὖσας·  
 'δαιμόνιοι, τί μάχης ἰμείρετε; πῶς δ' ἐπὶ  
 νύμφαις

ἀλλοτρίαις χαλεποί, γυμναὶ δ' ἐν χερσὶ μάχαιραι;  
 ἡμῖν τοι Λεύκιππος ἕως ἔδωκε θύγατρας  
 τάσδε πολὺ προτέροις· ἡμῖν γάμος οὗτος ἐν ὄρκῳ·  
 ὑμεῖς δ' οὐ κατὰ κόσμον ἐπ' ἀλλοτρίοισι λέχεσσι  
 βουσί καὶ ἡμιόνοισι καὶ ἄλλοισι κτεάτεσσιν

150

ἐπὶ γαίῃ Ahrens mss ἐνὶ γαίῃ οἱ ἐπὶ γαῖαν

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 127-150

crackled again, aye, and an ever livelier patter o' the fists did maul the face of him till his visage was all one mash. Then down went he in a heap and lay like to swoon upon the ground; and up with both his hands for to cry the battle off, because he was nigh unto death. But thou, good boxer Polydeuces, for all thy victory didst nothing presumptuous. Only wouldst thou have him swear a great oath by the name of his father Poseidon in the sea, that he would nevermore do annoyance unto strangers.

The tale of thy praise, great Lord, is told; and now of thee, good my Castor, will I sing, Castor the Tyndarid, lord of coursers, wielder of spears, knight of the corslet of brass

The twin children of Zeus were up and away with the daughters twain of Leucippus, and the two sons of Aphareus were hotfoot upon their track, Lynceus to wit and doughty Idas, the bridegrooms that were to be. But when they were got to the grave of Aphareus dead, they lighted all from their chariots together and made at one another in the accoutrement of spear and shield. Then up spake Lynceus and cried aloud from beneath his casque, saying: 'Sirs, why so desirous of battle? How come you so unkind concerning other men's brides? and wherefore these naked weapons in your hands? These daughters of Leucippus were plighted to us, to us long ere you came; we have his oath to it. But as for you, you have prevailed on him unseemly for other men's wives with cattle and mules and what

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἄνδρα παρετρέψασθε, γάμον δ' ἐκκλέπτετε<sup>1</sup> δώροις.  
 ἢ μὴν πολλάκις ὕμνιν ἐνώπιον ἀμφοτέροισιν  
 αὐτὸς ἐγὼ τὰδ' εἶπα καὶ οὐ πολὺμυθος ἐὼν περ·  
 "οὐχ οὕτω, φίλοι ἄνδρες, ἀριστήεσσιν ἔοικε  
 μνηστεύειν ἀλόχους, αἷς νυμφίοι ἤδη ἐτοῖμοι.  
 πολλή τοι Σπάρτη, πολλή δ' ἱππήλατος Ἥλις,  
 Ἀρκαδία τ' εὐμηλος Ἀχαιῶν τε πτολίεθρα,  
 Μεσσήνη τε καὶ Ἄργος ἅπασά τε Σιισυφίς ἀκτὴ·  
 ἔνθα κόραι τοκέεσσιν ὑπὸ σφετέροισι τρέφονται  
 μυρίαί οὔτε φυῆς ἐπιδευέες οὔτε νόοιο, 160  
 τῶν εὐμαρὲς ὕμνιν ὀπυίμεν<sup>2</sup> ἅς κ' ἐθέλητε·  
 ὡς ἀγαθοῖς πολέες βούλονται κε πενθεροὶ εἶναι,  
 ὑμεῖς δ' ἐν πάντεσσι διάκριτοι ἡρώεσσι,  
 καὶ πατέρες καὶ ἄνωθεν ἅπαν πατρώιον<sup>3</sup> αἶμα.  
 ἀλλὰ φίλοι τοῦτον μὲν ἐάσατε πρὸς τέλος ἐλθεῖν  
 ἄμμι γάμον· σφῶν δ' ἄλλον ἐπιφραζώμεθα πάντες."  
 ἴσκον τοιάδε πολλά, τὰ δ' εἰς ὑγρὸν ὄχετο κύμα  
 πνοιὴ ἔχουσ' ἀνέμοιο, χάρις δ' οὐχ ἔσπετο μύθοις·  
 σφὼ γὰρ ἀκηλὴτω καὶ ἀπηνέες. ἀλλ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν  
 πείθεσθ'· ἄμφω δ' ἄμμιν ἀνεψιὼ ἐκ πατρὸς ἐστόν.<sup>4</sup> 170

'εἰ δ' ὑμῖν κραδίη πόλεμον ποθεῖ, αἵματι δὲ χρὴ  
 νεῖκος ἀναρρήξαντας ὁμοίον ἔχθεα λῦσαι,<sup>4</sup>  
 Ἰδας μὲν καὶ ὄμαιμος ἐμός, κρατερὸς Πολυδεύκης,  
 χεῖρας ἐρωήσουσιν ἀπεχθομένης ὑσμίνης,  
 νῶι δ', ἐγὼ Λυγκεὺς<sup>5</sup> τε, διακρινώμεθ' Ἀρηι  
 ὀπλοτέρω γεγαώτε· γονεῦσι δὲ μὴ πολὺ πένθος  
 ἡμετέροισι λίπωμεν. ἄλις νέκυς ἐξ ἑνὸς οἴκου

<sup>1</sup> ἐκκλέπτετε E mss ἐκλέπτετε or ἐκλέψατε <sup>2</sup> ὀπυίμεν  
 Wil mss ὀπυίειν <sup>3</sup> πατρώιον mss also μητρώιον <sup>4</sup> mss  
 also ἔγχεα λούσαι <sup>5</sup> Λυγκεὺς · mss also Κάστωρ



## THEOCRITUS XXII, 151-177

not, ye be stealing bridal with a gift Yet time and again, God wot, albeit I am no man of many words, I have myself spoke to your face and said: "It ill becometh princes, good friends, to go a-wooing such as be betrothed already Sparta is wide, and so is Elis o' the coursers; wide likewise the sheep-walks of Arcady and the holds of Achaea, Messenè also and Argos and all the seaboard of Sisyphus' there's ten thousand maidens do dwell in them at the houses of their fathers, wanting nothing in beauty or in parts, of the which you may take whomso you will to your wives. For many there be would fain be made wife's father unto a good man and true, and you are men of mark among all heroes, you and your fathers and all your fathers' blood of yore Nay then, my friends, suffer us to bring this marriage to fulfilment, and we'll all devise other espousal for you" Such was my often rede, but the wind's breath was ever away with it unto the wet sea-wave, and no favour followed upon my words; for ye are hard men both and relentless Yet even at this hour I pray you give heed, seeing ye be our kin by the father.'

*(The beginning of Castor's reply is lost)*

'... But and if your heart would have war, if kindied strife must needs break forth and hate make an end in blood, then shall Idas and my doughty Polydeuces stand aside from the abhorred fray, and let you and me, Lynceus, that are the younger men, fight this matter out So shall we leave our fathers the less sorrow, seeing one is enough dead of one household,

The seaboard of Sisyphus is the district of Corinth.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εἷς· ἀτὰρ ὅλλοι πάντας<sup>1</sup> ἐυφρανέουσιν ἑταίρους  
 νυμφίοι ἀντὶ νεκρῶν, ὕμεναιώσουσι δὲ κούρας  
 τάσδ'· ὀλίγῳ τοι ἔοικε κακῷ μέγα νείκος ἀναιρεῖν.' 180

εἶπε, τὰ δ' οὐκ ἄρ' ἔμελλε θεὸς μεταμῶνια θήσειν.  
 τὼ μὲν γὰρ ποτὶ γαῖαν ἀπ' ὤμων τεύχε' ἔθεντο,  
 ὦ γενεῇ προφέρεσκον· ὃ δ' ἐς μέσον ἤλυθε Λυγκεὺς,  
 σείων καρτερὸν ἔγχος ὑπ' ἀσπίδος ἀντυγα πρώτην·  
 ὥς δ' αὐτῶς ἄκρας ἐτινάξατο δούρατος ἀκμᾶς  
 Κάστωρ· ἀμφοτέροις δὲ λόφων ἐπένευον ἔθειραι.  
 ἔγχεσι μὲν πρώτιστα τιτυσκόμενοι πόνον<sup>2</sup> εἶχον  
 ἀλλήλων, εἴ πού τι χροὸς γυμνωθὲν ἴδοιεν.  
 ἀλλ' ἦτοι τὰ μὲν ἄκρα πάρος τινα δηλήσασθαι  
 δοῦρ' ἐάγη, σακέεσσιν ἐνὶ δεινοῖσι παγέντα. 190  
 τὼ δ' ἄορ ἐκ κολεοῖο ἐρυσσαμένῳ φόνον αὖτις  
 τεύχον ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι· μάχης δ' οὐ γίνετ' ἐρωή.  
 πολλὰ μὲν ἐς σάκος εὐρὺ καὶ ἵππόκομον τρυφά-  
 λειαν

Κάστωρ, πολλὰ δ' ἐνυξεν ἀκριβῆς ὄμμασι Λυγκεὺς  
 τοῖο σάκος, φοίνικα δ' ὅσον λόφον ἔκετ' ἀκωκή.  
 τοῦ μὲν ἄκρην ἐκόλουσεν ἐπὶ σκαιὸν γόνυ χεῖρα  
 φάσγανον ὀξὺ φέροντος ὑπεξαναβὰς ποδὶ Κάστωρ  
 σκαιῷ· ὃ δὲ πληγεῖς ξίφος ἔκβαλεν, αἶψα δὲ  
 φεύγειν

ὠρμήθη ποτὶ σῆμα πατρός, τόθι καρτερὸς Ἴδας  
 κεκλιμένος θηεῖτο μάχην ἐμφύλιον ἀνδρῶν. 200  
 ἀλλὰ μεταίξας πλατὺ φάσγανον ὥσε διαπρὸ  
 Τυνδαρίδης λαγόνος τε καὶ ὀμφαλοῦ· ἔγκατα δ' εἴσω  
 χαλκὸς ἄφαρ διέχευεν· ὃ δ' ἐς στόμα<sup>3</sup> κείτο νενευκῶς  
 Λυγκεὺς, καὶ δ' ἄρα οἱ βλεφάρων βαρὺς ἔδραμεν  
 ὕπνος.

<sup>1</sup> mss also πάντες  
 mss also χθόνα

<sup>2</sup> πόνον; mss also πόθον

<sup>3</sup> στόμα

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὐ μὰν οὐδὲ τὸν ἄλλον ἐφ' ἐστίη εἶδε πατρώη  
 παίδων Λαοκώωσα φίλον γάμον ἐκτελέσαντα.  
 ἦ γὰρ ὅγε στήλην Ἀφαρηίου ἐξανέχουσαν  
 τύμβου ἀναρπάξας<sup>1</sup> ταχέως Μεσσήνιος Ἴδας  
 μέλλε κασιγνήτοιο βαλεῖν σφετέροιο φονῆα·  
 ἀλλὰ Ζεὺς ἐπάμυνε, χερῶν δέ οἱ ἔκβαλε τυκτὴν 210  
 μάρμαρον, αὐτὸν δὲ φλογέω συνέφλεξε κεραυνῷ.  
 οὕτω Τυνδαρίδαις πολεμιζέμεν οὐκ ἐν ἐλαφρῷ·  
 αὐτοὶ τε κρατέουσι καὶ ἐκ κρατέοντος ἔφυσαν.

χαίρετε Λήδας τέκνα, καὶ ἡμετέροις κλέος ὕμνοις  
 ἐσθλὸν αἰεὶ πέμπετε. φίλοι δέ τε πάντες ἀοιδοὶ  
 Τυνδαρίδαις Ἑλένη τε καὶ ἄλλοις ἡρώεσσιν,  
 Ἴλιον οἳ διέπερσαν ἀρήγοντες Μενελάω.  
 ὑμῖν κῦδος ἀνακτες ἐμήσατο Χίος ἀοιδός,  
 ὑμνήσας Πριάμοιο πόλιν καὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 Ἰλιάδας τε μάχας Ἀχιλλῆά τε πύργον αὐτῆς· 220  
 ὑμῖν αὖ καὶ ἐγὼ λιγεῶν μειλίγματα Μουσέων,  
 οἳ αὐταὶ παρέχουσι καὶ ὥς ἐμὸς οἶκος ὑπάρχει,  
 τοῖα φέρω. γεράων δὲ θεοῖς κάλλιστον ἀοιδαί<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ἀναρπάξας E, cf Pind N 10 60 · mss ἀναρρήξας <sup>2</sup> mss  
 also ἀοιδῇ

## THEOCRITUS XXII, 205-223

But neither was the other of Laocoosa's children to be seen of his mother a wedded man at the hearth of his fathers. For Idas of Messenè, he up with the standing stone from the grave of Aphareus and would have hurled it upon the slayer of his brother, but Zeus was Castor's defence, and made the wrought marble to fall from his enemy's hands; for he consumed him with the flame of his levin-bolt. Ah! 'tis no child's-play to fight with the sons of Tyndareus; they prevail even as he that begat them prevaleth.

Fare you well, ye children of Leda, we pray you may ever send our hymns a goodly fame. For all singers are dear unto the sons of Tyndareus and unto Helen and unto other the heroes who were Menelaus' helpfellows at the sacking of Troy. Your renown, O ye princes, is the work of the singer of Chios, when he sang of Priam's town and of the Achæan ships, of Trojan frays and of that tower of the war-cry Achilles; and here do I also bring your souls such offerings of propitiation as the melodious Muses do provide and my household is able to afford. And of all a God's prerogatives song is the fairest



### XXIII.—THE LOVER

*THIS poem, known to the Latin poets, cannot be ascribed to Theocritus. It was apparently sent by a lover to his neglectful beloved. The author tells how in a like case unrequited friendship led to the suicide of the one, and to the death of the other at the hands of an effigy of Love. The actual death of a boy through the accidental falling of a statue probably gave rise to a folk-tale which is here put into literary shape.*

### XXIII.—ΕΡΑΣΤΗΣ

Ἀνὴρ τις πολύφιλτρος ἀπηνέος ἦρατ' ἐφάβω  
τὰν μορφὰν ἀγαθῶ, τὸν δὲ τρόπον οὐκέθ' ὁμοίω·  
μίσει τὸν φιλέοντα καὶ οὐδὲ ἐν ἅμερον εἶχε,  
κοῦκ ᾗδει τὸν Ἑρωτα, τίς ὦν <sup>1</sup> θεὸς ἀλῖκα τόξα  
χερσὶ κρατεῖ, πῶς πικρὰ βέλη ποτὶ παίγνια <sup>2</sup>  
βάλλει·

πάντα δὲ κὰν μύθοισι καὶ ἐν προσόδοισιν ἀτειρήs.  
οὐδέ τι τῶν πυρσῶν πυραμύθιον, οὐκ ἀμάρυγμα  
χείλεος, οὐκ ὄσσω λιπαρὸν σέλας, οὐ ῥοδόμαλον,  
οὐ λόγος, οὐχὶ φίλαμα τὸ κουφίζον <sup>3</sup> τὸν ἔρωτα.  
οἶα δὲ θῆρ ὑλαῖος ὑποπτεύησι κυνάγως, 10  
οὕτως πάντ' ἐποπώπει ἐπὶ <sup>4</sup> βροτόν· ἄγρια δ'  
αὐτῷ

χείλεα καὶ κῶραι δεινὸν βλέπος εἶχον ἀνάγκας·<sup>5</sup>  
τᾷ δὲ χολᾷ τὸ πρόσωπον ἀμείβετο, φεύγε δ' ἀπὸ  
χρώs

ὁ πρὶν ταῖς ὀργαῖς περικείμενον·<sup>6</sup> ἀλλὰ καὶ οὕτως  
ἦν καλός· ἐξ ὀργᾶs <sup>7</sup> ἐρεθίζετο μᾶλλον ἐραστάs.

λοίσθιον οὐκ ἤνεικε τόσαν φλόγα τᾶs <sup>8</sup> Κυthereίας,  
ἀλλ' ἐλθὼν ἐκλαίει ποτὶ στυγνοῖσι μελάρροις,

<sup>1</sup> ὦν E. mss ἦν    <sup>2</sup> ποτὶ παίγνια E, cf. πρὸς ἡδονήν  
Stephanus ποτικάρδια. mss ποτὶ παιδία    <sup>3</sup> κουφίζον E mss  
-ζον, -ζέιν, -ζοι, -ζέι    <sup>4</sup> ἐποπώπει ἐπὶ E cf. 4. 7. mss ἐποίει  
ποτὶ τὸν    <sup>5</sup> βλέπος ε. ἀνάγκας Meineke mss βλέπον ε.

### XXIII —THE LOVER

THERE was once a heart-sick swain had a cruel fere, the face of the fere goodly but his ways not like to it; for he hated him that loved him, and had for him never a whit of kindness, and as for Love, what manner of God he might be or what manner of bow and arrows carry, or how keen and bitter were the shafts he shot for his delectation, these things wist he not at all, but both in his talk and conversation knew no yielding. And he gave no comfort against those burning fires, not a twist of his lip, not a flash of his eye, not the gift of a hip from the hedge-row, not a word, not a kiss, to lighten the load of desire. But he eyed every man even as a beast of the field that suspects the hunter, and his lips were hard and cruel and his eyes looked the dread look of fate. Indeed his angry humour made change of his face, and the colour of his cheeks fled away because he was a prey to wrathful imaginings. But even so he was fair to view, his wrath served only to prick his lover the more.

At last the poor man would bear no more so fierce a flame of the Cytherean, but went and wept before

ἀνάγκαν <sup>6</sup> ὁ πρὶν Alrens. mss ὕβριν ταῖς ὀργαῖς E:  
mss τὰς ὀργὰς περικείμενον Wakefield mss ποτικείμενος  
7 ἦν Heinsius. mss ἡ ἐξ ὀργῶν Stephanus. mss δ' ἐξήρπασ'  
<sup>8</sup> φλόγα τὰς Eldik. mss φαότατος



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ κύσε τὰν φλιάν, οὕτω δ' ἀντέλλετο φωνᾷ.<sup>1</sup>  
 ' ἄγριε παῖ καὶ στυγνέ, κακᾶς ἀνάθρεμμα  
 λαΐνας,  
 λάινε παῖ καὶ ἔρωτος ἀνάξιε, δῶρά τοι ἦλθον  
 λοίσθια ταῦτα φέρων, τὸν ἐμὸν βρόχον· οὐκέτι  
 γάρ σε  
 κῶρε θέλω λυπεῖν ποθορώμενος,<sup>2</sup> ἀλλὰ βαδίζω,  
 ἔνθα τύ μευ κατέκρινας, ὅπη λόγος ἦμεν ἀταρπὸν  
 ξυνὰν<sup>3</sup> τοῖσιν ἐρώσι, τὸ φάρμακον ἔνθα τὸ λάθους.<sup>4</sup>  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἦν ὅλον αὐτὸ λαβὼν ποτὶ χεῖλος  
 ἀμέλξω,  
 οὐδ' οὕτως σβέσσω τὸν ἐμὸν πόθον.<sup>5</sup>  
 ἄρτι δὲ χαίρειν  
 τοῖσι τεοῖς προθύροις ἐπιτέλλομαι.<sup>6</sup> οἶδα τὸ μέλ-  
 λον·  
 καὶ τὸ ῥόδον καλὸν ἐστί, καὶ ὁ χρόνος αὐτὸ  
 μαραίνει·  
 καὶ τὸ Ἴον καλὸν ἐστὶν ἐν εἵαρι, καὶ ταχὺ γηρᾷ·  
 λευκὸν τὸ κρίνον ἐστί, μαραίνεται ἀνὶκ' ἀπανθελί.<sup>7</sup>  
 ἅ δὲ χιῶν λευκά, κατατάσσεται ἀνὶκ' ἐπιπνεῖ.<sup>8</sup>  
 καὶ κάλλος καλὸν ἐστί τὸ παιδικόν, ἀλλ' ὀλίγον  
 ζῆ.  
 ἥξει καιρὸς ἐκεῖνος, ὅπανίκα καὶ τὸ φιλάσεις,  
 ἀνίκα τὰν κραδίαν ὀπτεύμενος ἀλμυρὰ κλαύσεις.  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ παῖ καὶ τοῦτο πανύστατον ἀδύ τι ῥέξον·  
 ὀππότεν ἐξελθὼν ἡρτημένον ἐν προθύροις  
 τοῖσι τεοῖσιν ἴδης τὸν τλάμονα, μὴ με παρέλθης,  
 στᾶθι δὲ καὶ βραχὺ κλαῦσον, ἐπισπείσας δὲ τὸ  
 δάκρυ

<sup>1</sup> ἀντέλλετο φωνᾷ E: mss ἀντέλοντο φωναί <sup>2</sup> ποθορώμενος  
 E· mss ποχολώμενος(λ corr το ρ) <sup>3</sup> ἀταρπὸν ξυνὰν Tour: mss  
 ἀταρπῶν ξυνὸν <sup>4</sup> λάθους E: mss λᾶθος <sup>5</sup> πόθον Mus:

# THEOCRITUS XXIII, 19-39

that sullen house, and kissed the doorpost of it, and lifted up his voice saying "O cruel, O sullen child, that wast nursed of an evil she-lion; O boy of stone which art all unworthy to be loved; lo! here am I come with the last of my gifts, even this my halter. No longer will I vex you with the sight of me; but here go I whither you have condemned me, where they say the path lies all lovers must travel, where is the sweet physic of oblivion. Yet if so be I take and drink that physic up, every drop, yet shall I not quench the fever of my desire.

And lo! now I bid this thy door farewell or ever I go. I know what is to be. The rose is fair and Time withers it, the violet is fair in the year's spring and it quickly groweth old; the lily is white,—it fades when its flowering's done; and white the snow,—it melts all away when the wind blows warm: and even so, the beauty of a child is beautiful indeed, but it liveth not for long. The day will come when you shall love like me, when your heart shall burn like mine, and your eyes weep brinish tears. So I pray you, child, do me this one last courtesy: when you shall come and find a poor man hanging at your door, pass him not by; but stay you first and weep awhile for a libation upon

mss χόλον <sup>6</sup> ἐπιτέλλομαι Reiske mss -βάλλομαι <sup>7</sup> ἀνίκ' ἀπανθεῖ E mss ἀν. πίπτῃ (see on l 32) <sup>8</sup> κατατάκεται Wil. mss καὶ τ. ἐπιπνέει E, impersonal; see *Glass. Rev.*: mss παχθῇ

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

λύσον τὰς σχοίνω με καὶ ἀμφίθεσ ἐκ ῥεθέων σῶν 40  
εἴματα καὶ κρύψον με, τὸ δ' αὖ πύματόν με  
φίλασον·

κὰν νεκρῷ χαρίσαι τὰ σὰ χεῖλεα. μή με φοβαθῆς·  
οὐ δύναμαι σίνειν<sup>1</sup> σε· διαλλάξεις με φιλάσας.

χῶμα δέ μοι κοίλου τι,<sup>2</sup> τό μευ κρύψει τὸν ἔρωτα,  
χῶτ' ἀπίης, τόδε μοι τρὶς ἐπάνυσον· ὦ φίλε κείσο.<sup>3</sup>  
ἦν δὲ θέλης, καὶ τοῦτο· καλὸς δέ μοι ὤλεθ'  
ἐταῖρος.<sup>4</sup>

γράφον καὶ τόδε γράμμα, τὸ σοῖς τοίχοισι  
χαράσσω.<sup>4</sup>

‘τοῦτον ἔρωσ ἐκτεινεν. ὁδοιπόρε, μή παροδεύσης,  
ἀλλὰ στὰς τόδε λέξον· ἀπηνέα εἶχεν ἐταῖρον.’”

ὦδ' εἰπὼν λίθον εἶλεν, ἐρεισάμενος δ' ἐπὶ τοίγῃ 50  
ἄχρι μέσῳ· οὐδὼν φοβερὸν λίθον ἄπτει' ἀπ'  
αὐτῶν<sup>5</sup>

τὰν λεπτὰν σχοινίδα, βρόχον δ' ἐνέβαλλε<sup>6</sup> τρα-  
χήλῳ,  
τὰν ἔδραν δ' ἐκύλισεν ἀπαὶ ποδός, ἥδ' ἐκρεμάσθη  
νεκρός.

ὃ δ' αὖτ' ὤϊξε θύρας καὶ τὸν νεκρὸν εἶδεν  
αὐλᾶς ἐξ ιδίας ἡρτημένον, οὐδ' ἔλυγίχθη  
τὰν ψυχάν· οὐ κλαύσε νέον φόνον, οὐδ' ἐπὶ νεκρῷ  
εἴματα πάντ' ἐμίαιεν ἐφ' αβικά, βαῖνε δ' ἐς ἄθλα<sup>6</sup>  
γυμναστῶν, καὶ ἔκηλα<sup>9</sup> φίλων ἐπεμαίετο λουτρῶν.  
καὶ ποτὶ τὸν θεὸν ἦλθε, τὸν ὕβρισε· λαίνεος<sup>10</sup> δὲ

<sup>1</sup> σίνειν Ahrens mss εἶν <sup>2</sup> μοι (Mus.) κοίλου τι E· mss  
μευ κοίλου τι or τὸ <sup>3</sup> χῶτ' E mss κὰν corr from χῶμ'  
due to confusion with l 44 κείσο E mss κείσαι <sup>4</sup> χαράσσω  
Wil. mss χαράξω <sup>5</sup> ἄπτει' Mus; mss ὁπότ' αὐτῶν Mus·

# THEOCRITUS XXIII, 40-59

him, and then loosing him from the rope, put about him some covering from your own shoulders; and give him one last kiss, for your lips will be welcome even to the dead. And never fear me; I cannot do thee any mischief, thou shalt kiss and there an end. Then pray thee make a hole in some earthy bank for to hide all my love of thee; and ere thou turn thee to go thy ways, cry over me three times 'Rest, my friend,' and if it seem thee good cry also 'My fair companion's dead' And for epitaph write the words I here inscribe upon thy wall:

*Here's one that died of love, good wayfarer,  
Stay thee and say: his was a cruel fever*

This said, he took a stone and set it up, that dreadful stone, against the wall in the midst of the doorway; then tied that slender string unto the porch above, put the noose about his neck, rolled that footing from beneath his feet, and lo! he hung a corpse

Soon that other, he opened the door and espied the dead hanging to his own doorway; and his stubborn heart was not bended. The new-done murder moved him not unto tears, nor would he be defiling all his young lad's garments with a dead corpse, but went his ways to the wrestling-bouts and betook himself light of heart to his beloved bath. And so came he unto the God he had slighted. For

mss αὐτοῦ      <sup>6</sup> ἐνέβαλλε or ἐμβαλλε Mus mss ἐβαλλε  
<sup>7</sup> οὐδ' E: mss ἀλλ'      <sup>8</sup> ἐμίλινεν E: mss ἐμίανεν ἄθλα  
 Ahrens · mss ἀθλω      <sup>9</sup> ἐκῆλα Wil mss λε      <sup>10</sup> λαίνεος E  
 mss λαινέας

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἴστατ' ἀπὸ κρηπῖδος ἐς ὕδατα· τῷ δ' ἐφύπερθεν 60  
 ἄλατο καὶ τῷγαλμα, κακὸν δ' ἔκτεινεν ἔφαβον·  
 νᾶμα <sup>1</sup> δ' ἐφοινίχθη· παιδὸς δ' ἐπενάχετο φωνά·  
 “χαίρετε τοὶ φιλέοντες· ὁ γὰρ μισῶν ἐφονεύθη.  
 στέργετε δ' οἱ μισεῦντες· ὁ γὰρ θεὸς οἶδε δικάζειν.”

<sup>1</sup> νᾶμα Reiske : mss ἄμα

### THEOCRITUS XXIII, 60-64

there stood an image of him upon the margin looking towards the water. And lo! even the graven image leapt down upon him and slew that wicked lad; and the water went all red, and on the water floated the voice of a child saying "Rejoice ye that love, for he that did hate is slain; and love ye that hate, for the God knoweth how to judge"



# XXIV.—ΗΡΑΚΛΙΣΚΟΣ

Ἡρακλέα δεκάμηνον ἔοντα πόχ' ἅ Μιδεᾶτις  
 Ἀλκμήνα καὶ νυκτὶ νεώτερον Ἴφικλῆα  
 ἀμφοτέρους λούσασα καὶ ἐμπλήσασα γάλακτος,  
 χαλκείαν κατέθηκεν ἐς ἀσπίδα, τὰν Πτερελάου  
 Ἀμφιτρύων καλὸν ὄπλον ἀπὸ σκύλευσε πεσόντος.  
 ἀπτομένα δὲ γυνὰ κεφαλᾶς μυθήσατο παίδων  
 “ εὔδετ' ἐμὰ βρέφεα γλυκερὸν καὶ ἐγέρσιμον ὕπνον,  
 εὔδετ' ἐμὰ ψυχὰ, δὴ ἀδελφοί, εὔσοα τέκνα·  
 ὀλβιοὶ εὐνάζοισθε καὶ ὀλβιοὶ ἀὼ ἴκοισθε.”<sup>1</sup>  
 ὡς φαμένα δίνασε σάκος μέγα· τοὺς δ' ἔλαβ' ὕπνος.  
 ἄμμος δὲ στρέφεται μεσονύκτιον ἐς δύσιν Ἄρκτος 10  
 Ὠρίωνα κατ' αὐτόν, ὃ δ' ἀμφαίνει μέγαν ὦμον,  
 τᾶμος ἄρ' αἰνὰ πέλωρα δύω πολυμήχανος Ἥρη  
 κυανέαις φρίσσοντας ὑπὸ σπείραισι δράκοντας  
 ὠρσεν ἐπὶ πλατὺν οὐδόν, ὅθι σταθμὰ κοῖλα θυράων  
 οἴκου, ἀπειλήσασα φαγεῖν βρέφος Ἡρακλῆα.  
 τὼ δ' ἐξείλυσθέντες ἐπὶ χθονὶ γαστέρας ἄμφω  
 αἰμοβόρους ἐκύλιον· ἀπ' ὀφθαλμῶν δὲ κακὸν πῦρ  
 ἐρχομένοις λάμπεσκε, βαρὺν δ' ἐξέπτυνον ἰόν.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ παίδων λιχμώμενοι ἐγγύθεν ἦλθον, 20  
 καὶ τότε ἄρ' ἐξέγροντο, Διὸς νοέοντος ἅπαντα,  
 Ἀλκμήνας φίλα τέκνα, φάος δ' ἀνὰ οἶκον ἐτύχθη.  
 ἦτοι ὄγ' εὐθύς ἄυσεν, ὅπως κακὰ θηρί' ἀνέγνων

<sup>1</sup> ἴκοισθε . mss also ἴδοιτε



## XXIV.—THE LITTLE HERACLES

ONCE upon a time when the little Heracles was ten months old, Alcmena of Midea took him and Iphicles that was his younger by a night, and laid them, washed both and suckled full, in the fine brazen buckler Amphitryon had gotten in spoil of Pterelaus, and setting her hand upon their heads said "Sleep my babes, sleep sweetly and light; sleep, sweethearts, brothers twain, goodly children Heaven prosper your slumbering now and your awakening to-morrow" And as she spake, she rocked the great targe till they fell asleep

But what time the Bear swings low towards her midnight place over against the uplifted shoulder of mighty Orion, then sent the wily Hera two dire monsters of serpents, bridling and bristling and with azure coils, to go upon the broad threshold of the hollow doorway of the house, with intent they should devour the child Heracles. And there on the ground they both untwined their ravening bellies and went writhing forward, while an evil fire shined forth of their eyes and a grievous venom was spued out of their mouth But when with tongues flickering they were come where the children lay, on a sudden Alcmena's little ones (for Zeus knew all) awoke, and there was made a light in the house. Iphicles, he straightway cried out when he espied the evil beasts and their pitiless fangs

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κοίλου ὑπὲρ σάκεος καὶ ἀναιδέας εἶδεν ὀδόντας,  
 Ἴφικλῆης, οὐλαν δὲ ποσὶν διελάκτισε χλαῖναν,  
 φευγόμεν ὀρμαίνων· ὃ δ' ἐναντίος ἔτετο<sup>1</sup> χερσὶν  
 Ἑρακλῆης, ἄμφω δὲ βαρεῖ ἐνεδήσατο δεσμῷ,  
 δραξάμενος φάρυγος, τόθι φάρμακα λυγρὰ τέτυκται<sup>2</sup>  
 οὐλομένοις ὀφείεσσιν, ἃ καὶ θεοὶ ἐχθαίρουσι.  
 τὼ δ' αὖτε σπείραισιν ἐλίσσέσθην περὶ παῖδα  
 ὀψίγονον γαλαθηνὸν ὑπὸ τροφῷ αἰὲν ἄδακρυν·  
 ἄψ δὲ πάλιν διέλυον, ἐπεὶ μογέοιεν ἀκάνθας,  
 δεσμοῦ ἀναγκαίου πειρώμενοι ἔκλυσιν εὐρεῖν.

Ἀλκμήνα δ' ἐσάκουσε βοᾶς καὶ ἐπέγρετο<sup>3</sup> πρᾶτα·  
 “ἄνσταθ’ Ἀμφιτρύων· ἐμὲ γὰρ δέος ἴσχει ὀκνηρόν·  
 ἄνστα, μηδὲ πόδεσσι τεοῖς ὑπὸ σάνδαλα θείης.  
 οὐκ αἰεὶς, παίδων ὁ νεώτερος ὅσσον αὐτεῖ;  
 ἦ οὐ νοέεις, ὅτι νυκτὸς ἄωρί που, οἱ δέ τε τοίχοι  
 πάντες ἀριφραδέες καθαρᾶς ἄπερ<sup>4</sup> ἡριγενείας,  
 ἔστι τί μοι κατὰ δῶμα νεώτερον, ἔστι φίλ’ ἀνδρῶν.”  
 ὧς φάθ’. ὃ δ' ἐξ εὐνᾶς ἀλόχῳ κατέβαινε πιθήσας·  
 δαιδάλεον δ' ὥρμασε μετὰ ξίφος, ὃ οἱ ὑπερθεν  
 κλιντήρος κεδρίνου περὶ πασσάλῳ αἰὲν ἄωρτο.  
 ἦτοι ὄγ’ ὠριγνᾶτο νεοκλώστου τελαμῶνος,  
 κουφίζων ἐτέρα κολεόν, μέγα λῶτινον ἔργον.  
 ἀμφιλαφῆς δ' ἄρα παστὰς ἐνεπλήσθη πάλιν  
 ὄρφνας·  
 δμῶας δὴ τότε ἄυσεν ὕπνον βαρὺν ἐκφυσῶντας·  
 “οἴσετε πῦρ· ὅτι θᾶσσον ἅπ’ ἐσχαρεῶνος ἐλόντες,  
 δμῶες ἐμοί”· στιβαροὺς δὲ θυρᾶν ἀνεκόψατ’<sup>5</sup> ὀχῆας.

<sup>1</sup> ἔτετο Meineke mss εἶχετο

<sup>3</sup> ἐπέγρετο mss also ἐπέδραμε

<sup>5</sup> ἀνεκόψατ’ Blass mss ἀνακ.

<sup>2</sup> mss also κέκρυπται

<sup>4</sup> ἄπερ Briggs· mss ἄπερ

## THEOCRITUS XXIV, 25-49

above the target's rim, and kicked away the woollen coverlet in an agony to flee; but Heracles made against them with his hands, and griping them where lies a baneful snake's fell poison hated even of the Gods, held them both fast bound in a sure bondage by the throat. For a while thereat they two wound their coils about that young child, that suckling babe at nurse which never knew tears; but soon they relaxed their knots and loosed their weary spines and only strove to find enlargement from out those irresistible bonds.

Alcmena was the first to hear the cry and awake. "Arise, Amphitryon," quoth she, "for as for me I cannot arise for fear. Up then you, and tarry not even till you be shod. Hear you not how the little one cries? and mark you not that all the chamber-walls are bright as at the pure day-spring hour, though sure 'tis the dead of night? Troth, something, dear lord, is amiss with us." At these her words he up and got him down from the bed, and leapt for the damasked brand which ever hung to a peg above his cedarn couch, and so reached out after his new-spun baldric even as with the other hand he took up his great scabbard of lotus-wood. Now was the ample bower filled full again of darkness, and the master cried upon his bondservants that lay breathing slumber so deep and loud, saying "Quick, my bondservants! bring lights, bring lights from the brazier," and so thrust his stout door-pins back. Then "Rouse ye," quoth the

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

“ἀνστατε δμῶες ταλασίφρονες. αὐτὸς ἀντεῖ.” 50  
 ἦ ῥα γυνὰ Φοίνισσα μύλαις ἔπι κοῖτον ἔχουσα.  
 οἱ δ’ αἶψα προγένοντο λύχνοις ἅμα δαιομένοισι  
 δμῶες· ἐνεπλήσθη δὲ δόμος σπεύδοντος ἐκάστου.  
 ἦτοι ἄρ’ ὥς εἶδοντ’ ἐπιτίθιον Ἑρακλῆα  
 θῆρε δύνω χεῖρεσσιν ἀπρίξ ἀπαλαῖσιν ἔχοντα,  
 συμπλήγδην ἰάχῃσαν· ὃ δ’ ἐς πατέρ’ Ἀμφιτρύωνα  
 ἐρπετὰ δεικανάσκειν, ἐπάλλετο δ’ ὑψόθι χαίρων  
 κουροσύνα, γελάσας δὲ πάρος κατέθηκε ποδοῦν  
 πατρὸς εὐὸ θανάτῳ κεκαρωμένα δεινὰ πέλωρα.  
 Ἀλκμήνα μὲν ἔπειτα ποτὶ σφέτερον βάλε κόλπον 60  
 ξηρὸν ὑπαὶ δέλους ἀκρόχλοον Ἴφικλῆα·  
 Ἀμφιτρύων δὲ τὸν ἄλλον ὑπ’ ἀμνείαν θέτο χλαῖναν  
 παῖδα, πάλιν δ’ ἐς λέκτρον ἰὼν ἐμνάσατο κοῖτου.  
 ὄρνιθες τρίτον ἄρτι τὸν ἔσχατον ὄρθρον αἰεδοῦν,  
 Τειρεσίαν τόκα μάντιν ἀλαθέα πάντα λέγοντα  
 Ἀλκμήνα καλέσασα χρέος<sup>1</sup> κατέλεξε νεοχμόν,  
 καὶ νιν ὑποκρίνεσθαι, ὅπως τελέεσθαι ἔμελλεν,  
 ἠνώγει. “μηδ’ εἴ τι θεοὶ νοέοντι πονηρόν,  
 αἰδόμενος ἐμὲ κρύπτε· καὶ ὥς οὐκ ἔστιν ἀλύξαι  
 ἀνθρώποις, ὅτι Μοῖρα κατὰ κλωστήροσ ἐπείγει. 70  
 ἀλλ’<sup>2</sup> Εὐηρείδα μάλα σε φρονέοντα διδάσκω.”  
 τόσος<sup>3</sup> ἔλεγεν βασιλεια ὃ δ’ ἀνταμείβετο τοίοις·<sup>3</sup>  
 “θάρσει ἀριστοτόκεια γύναι, Περσῆιον αἶμα,  
 θάρσει· μελλόντων δὲ τὸ λώιον ἐν φρεσὶ θέσσο.<sup>4</sup>  
 ναὶ γὰρ ἐμῶν<sup>5</sup> γλυκὺ φέγγος ἀποιχόμενον πάλαι  
 ὅσσων,

<sup>1</sup> χρέος mss also τέρας <sup>2</sup> ἀλλ’ Ahrens: mss μάντι or μάντιν <sup>3</sup> τοίοις Briggs. mss τοίως or τοῖος <sup>4</sup> θέσσο E, cf Sappho 78: mss θέσθαι or omit <sup>5</sup> ἐμῶν E: mss ἐμὸν

## THEOCRITUS XXIV, 50-75

Phœnician woman that had her sleeping over the mill, "rouse ye, strong-heart bondservants; the master cries." and quickly forth came those bondservants with lamps burning every one, and lo' all the house was filled full of their bustling. And when they espied the suckling Heracles with the two beasts in the clutch of his soft little fingers, they clapped their hands and shouted aloud There he was, showing the creeping things to his father Amphitryon and capering in his pretty childish glee; then laughing laid the dire monsters before his father's feet all sunken in the slumber of death Then was Iphicles clipped aghast and palsied with fright to Alcmena's bosom, and the other child did Amphitryon lay again beneath the lamb's-wool coverlet, and so gat him back to bed and took up his rest

The cocks at third crow were carolling the break of day, when he that never 'lied, the seer Teiresias, was called of Alcmena and all the strange thing told him. And she bade him give answer how it should turn out, and said "Even though the Gods devise us ill, I pray you hide it not from me in pity; for not even thus may man escape what the spindle of Fate drives upon him. But enough; son of Eueres; verily I teach the wise" At that he made the queen this answer: "Be of good cheer, O seed of Perseus, thou mother of noblest offspring; be of good cheer and lay up in thy heart the best hope of that which is to come. For I swear to you by the dear sweet light that is so long gone from my eyes, many the

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

πολλὰ Ἀχαιάδων μαλακὸν περὶ γούνατι νῆμα  
 χειρὶ κατατρίψουσιν ἀκρέσπερον αἰίδουσαι  
 Ἀλκμήναν ὀνομαστί, σέβας δ' ἔσῃ Ἀργεῖαισι.  
 τοῖος ἀνὴρ ὅδε μέλλει ἐς οὐρανὸν ἄστρον φέροντα  
 ἀμβαίνειν τεὸς υἱός, ἀπὸ στέρνων πλατὺς ἥρως, 80  
 οὐ καὶ θηρία πάντα καὶ ἀνέρες ἥσσονες ἄλλοι.  
 δώδεκά οἱ τελέσαντι πεπρωμένον ἐν Διὸς οἰκεῖν<sup>1</sup>  
 μόχθους, θνητὰ δὲ πάντα πυρὰ Τραχίνιος ἔξει·  
 γαμβρὸς δ' ἀθανάτων κεκλήσεται, οἳ τὰδ' ἐπώρσαν  
 κνώδαλα φωλεύοντα βρέφος διαδηλήσασθαι. 85  
 ἀλλὰ γύναι πῦρ μὲν τοι ὑπὸ σποδοῦ εὐτυκον ἔστω, 88  
 κάγκανα δ' ἀσπαλάθου ξύλ' ἐτοιμάσατ' ἡ παλι-  
 ούρου  
 ἢ βάτου ἢ ἀνέμφ δεδουημένον αὔον ἄχερδον 90  
 καίτε δὲ τῶδ' ἀγρίαισιν ἐπὶ σχίζαισι δράκοντε  
 νυκτὶ μέσῃ, ὅκα παῖδα κανεῖν τεδὸν ἤθελον αὐτοί.  
 ἦρι δὲ συλλέξασα κόνιν πυρὸς ἀμφιπόλων τις  
 ῥιψάτω εὖ μάλα πᾶσαν ὑπὲρ ποταμοῖο φέρουσα  
 ῥωγάδας ἐς πέτρας ὑπερούριον, ἅψ δὲ νεέσθω<sup>2</sup>  
 ἄστρεπτος· καθαρῶ δὲ πυρώσατε δῶμα θεεῖν  
 πρᾶτον, ἔπειτα δ' ἄλεσσι μεμιγμένον, ὥς νενο-  
 μισται,  
 θαλλῶ ἐπιρραίνειν ἐστεμμένω<sup>3</sup> ἀβλαβὲς ὕδωρ·  
 Ζηνὶ δ' ἐπιρρέξαι καθυπερτέρῳ ἄρσενι χοῖρον,  
 δυσμενέων αἰεὶ καθυπέρτεροι ὥς τελέθοιτε." 100

<sup>1</sup> οἰκεῖν Mus mss οἰκῆς    <sup>2</sup> νεέσθω Hermann mss νεέσθαι  
<sup>3</sup> ἐστεμμένω Schaefer · mss -ον

## THEOCRITUS XXIV, 76-100

Achaean women that as they card the soft wool about their knees at even, shall sing hereafter of the name of Alcmena, and the dames of Argos shall do her honour of worship. So mighty a man shall in this your son rise to the star-laden heavens, to wit a Hero broad of breast, that shall surpass all flesh, be they man or be they beast. And 'tis decreed that having accomplished labours twelve, albeit all his mortal part shall fall to a pyre of Trachis, he shall go to dwell with Zeus, and shall be called in his marriage a son of the Immortals, even of them who despatched those venomous beasts of the earth to make an end of him in his cradle. But now, my lady, let there be fire ready for thee beneath the embers, and prepare ye dry sticks of bramble, brier, or thorn, or else of the wind-fallen twigs of the wild pear-tree; and with that fuel of wild wood consume thou this pair of serpents at midnight, even at the hour they chose themselves for to slay thy son. And betimes in the morning let one of thy handmaids gather up the dust of the fire and take it to the river-cliff, and cast it, every whit and very carefully, out upon the river to be beyond your borders; and on her homeward way look she never behind her: next, for the cleansing of your house, first burn ye therein sulphur pure, and then sprinkle about it with a wool-wound branch innocent water mingled, as the custom is, with salt: and for an end offer ye a boar pig to Zeus pre-eminent, that so ye may ever remain pre-eminent above your enemies."

86 ἔσται δὲ τοῦτ' ἄμαρ, ὀπηνίκα νεβρὸν ἐν εὐνᾷ  
καρχαρόδων σίνεσθαι ἰδὼν λύκος οὐκ ἐθέλησει

These lines were rightly omitted by Briggs as due to a Christian interpolator.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

φᾶ, καὶ ἐρώησας ἐλεφάντινον ὄχετο δίφρον  
Τειρεσίας πολλοῖσι βαρὺς περ ἐὼν ἐνιαυτοῖς.

Ἑρακλῆς δ' ὑπὸ ματρὶ νέον φυτὸν ὥς ἐν ἁλῶ  
ἐτρέφετ' Ἀργείου κεκλημένος Ἀμφιτρύωνος.  
γράμματα μὲν τὸν παῖδα γέρων Λίνος ἐξεδίδαξεν,  
υἱὸς Ἀπόλλωνος μελεδωνεὺς ἄγρυπνος ἥρων,  
τόξον δ' ἐντανύσαι καὶ ἐπὶ σκοπὸν εἶναι οἰστὸν  
Εὐρυτος ἐκ πατέρων μεγάλαις ἀφνειὸς ἀρούραις.  
αὐτὰρ αἰοιδὸν ἔθηκε καὶ ἄμφω χεῖρας ἔπλασσε  
πυξίνα ἐν φόρμιγγι Φιλαμμουίδας Εὐμόλπος.  
ὅσσα δ' ἀπὸ σκελέων ἔδρυστρόφοι Ἀργόθεν ἄνδρες  
ἀλλήλους σφάλλουσι παλαίσμασιν, ὅσσά τε  
πύκται

110

δεινοὶ ἐν ἱμάντεσσιν, ἃ τ' ἐς γαῖαν προπεσόντες  
πάμμαχοι ἐξεύροντο σοφίσματα<sup>1</sup> σύμφορα τέχνη,  
πάντ' ἔμαθ' Ἑρμείας διδασκόμενος παρὰ παιδί  
Ἀρπαλύκῃ Φανοτῇ, τὸν οὐδ' ἂν τηλόθε λεύσσω  
θαρσαλέως τις ἔμεινεν ἀεθλεύοντ' ἐν ἀγῶνι.  
τοῖον ἐπισκύνιον βλοσυρῷ ἐπέκειτο προσώπῳ.

ἵππους δ' ἐξελάσασθαι ὑφ' ἄρματι, καὶ περὶ  
νύσαν

ἀσφαλῶς κάμπτοντα τροχοῦ σύριγγα φυλάξαι,  
Ἀμφιτρύων δὲν παῖδα φίλα φρονέων ἐδίδαξεν  
αὐτός, ἐπεὶ μάλα πολλὰ θοῶν ἐξ ἥρατ' ἀγώνων  
Ἀργεὶ ἐν ἵπποβότῳ κειμήλια, καὶ οἱ ἀαγεῖς  
δίφροι, ἐφ' ὧν ἐπέβαινε, χρόνῳ διέλυσαν ἱμάντας.  
δοῦρατι δὲ προβολαίῃ ὑπ' ἀσπίδι νῶτον ἔχοντα  
ἄνδρὸς ὀρέξασθαι ξιφέν τ' ἀνέχεσθαι ἀμυχμόν,  
κοσμήσαι τε φάλαγγα λόχον τ' ἀναμετρήσασθαι  
δυσμενέων ἐπίοντα καὶ ἱππήεσσι κελεύσαι

120

<sup>1</sup> σοφίσματα Meineke mss παλαίσματα



## THEOCRITUS XXIV, 101-128

So spake Teiresias, and despite the weight of his many years, pushed back the ivory chair and was gone

And Heracles, called now the son of Amphitryon of Argos, waxed under his mother's eye like a sapling set in a vineyard Letters learned he of a sleepless guardian, a Hero, son of Apollo, aged Linus, and to bend a bow and shoot arrows at the mark, of one that was born to wealth of great domains, Eurytus; and he that made of him a singer and shaped his hand to the box-wood lyre, was Eumolpus, the son of Philammon Aye, and all the tricks and falls both of the cross-buttockers of Argos, and of boxers skilful with the hand-strap, and eke all the cunning inventions of the catch-as-catch-can men that roll upon the ground, all these things learnt he at the feet of a son of Hermes, Haipalycus of Phanotè, whom no man could abide confidently in the ring even so much as to look upon him from aloof, so dread and horrible was the frown that sat on his grim visage

But to drive horses in a chariot and guide the nave of his wheel safely about the turnpost, that did Amphitryon in all kindness teach his son himself; for he had carried off a multitude of precious things from swift races in the Argive grazing-land of steeds, and Time alone had loosed the harness from his chariots, seeing he kept them ever unbroken And how to abide the cut and thrust of the sword or to lunge lance in rest and shield swung over back, how to marshal a company, measure an advancing squadron of the foe, or give the word to a troop of

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

Κάστωρ ἰππελάτας<sup>1</sup> δέδαεν, φυγὰς Ἄργεος ἔλθών,  
 ὀππόκα κλᾶρον ἅπαντα καὶ οἰνόπεδον μέγα Τυδεὺς 130  
 ναίει, παρ' Ἀδρήστοιο λαβὼν ἰππήλατον Ἄργος.  
 Κάστορι δ' οὔτις ὁμοῖος ἐν ἡμιθέοις πολεμιστῆς  
 ἄλλος ἔην πρὶν γῆρας ἀποτρίψαι νεότητα.

ὦδε μὲν Ἡρακλῆα φίλα παιδεύσατο μάτηρ.  
 εὐνὰ δ' ἦς τῷ παιδὶ τετυγμένα ἀγχόθι πατρὸς  
 δέρμα λεόντειον μάλα οἱ κεχαρισμένον αὐτῷ,  
 δεῖπνον δὲ κρέατ' <sup>2</sup> ὀπτά, καὶ ἐν κανέφ' μέγας ἄρτος  
 Δωρικός· ἀσφαλέως κε φυτοσκάφον ἄνδρα κορέσ-  
 σαι·

αὐτὰρ ἐπ' ἅματι τυννὸν ἄνευ πυρὸς αἶνυτο δόρπον.  
 εἴματα δ' οὐκ ἀσκητὰ μέσας ὑπὲρ ἔννυτο κνάμας. 140

<sup>1</sup> ἰππελάτας E mss ἰππαλίδας    <sup>2</sup> κρέατ' E: cf. Il. 12. 311:  
 mss κρέα τ'

## THEOCRITUS XXIV, 129-140

horse—all such lore had he of horseman Castor, when he came an outlaw from Argos because Tydeus had received that land of horsemen from Adrastus and held all Castor's estate and his great vineyard. And till such time as age had worn away his youth, Castor had no equal in war among all the demigods

While Heracles' dear mother thus ordered his upbringing, the lad's bed was made him hard by his father's, and a lion-skin it was and gave him great delight; for meals, his breakfast was roast flesh, and in his basket he carried a great Dorian loaf such as might surely satisfy a delving man, but after the day's work he would make his supper sparsely and without fire; and for his clothing he wore plain and simple attire that fell but a little below the knee.

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## XXV.—HOW HERACLES SLEW THE LION

*THIS Epic poem comprises three distinct parts, one of which still bears its separate title. It is not really a fragment, but pretends by a literary convention to be three "books" taken from an Odyssey, or rather Heracleia, in little. The first part, which bears the traditional stage-direction Heracles to the Husbandman, is concerned first with a description of the great farm of Augeas or Augeas, king of the Epeians of Elis—the same whose stables Heracles at another time cleaned out—put into the mouth of a garrulous old ploughman of whom Heracles has asked where he can find the king; then the old man undertakes to show the mysterious stranger the way, and as they draw near the homestead they have a Homeric meeting with the barking dogs. The second part bears the title The Visitation. In it we are told how the enormous herd of cattle given by the Sun to his child Augeas returned in the evening from pasture, how the king and his son Phyleus took Heracles to see the busy scene in the farmyard, and how Heracles encountered*

## THEOCRITUS XXV

*the finest bull in the whole herd. In the third part, which has no traditional title, Heracles, accompanied by the king's son, is on his way to the town, and their conversation leads to Heracles' telling how he slew the Nemean lion. There is no ancient authority for ascribing the poem to Theocritus*

XXV.—[ΗΡΑΚΛΗΣ ΛΕΟΝΤΟΦΟΝΟΣ]

Τὸν δ' ὁ γέρων προσέειπε βοῶν ἐπίουρος ἄροτρεὺς  
παυσάμενος ἔργοιο, τό οἱ μετὰ χερσὶν ἔκειτο·

ἔκ τοι ξεῖνε πρόφρων μυθήσομαι ὅσσ' ἔρεεῖνεις,  
Ἑρμέω ἀζόμενος δεινὴν ὅπιν εἰνοδίοιο·

τὸν γάρ φασι μέγιστον ἐπουρανίων κεχολῶσθαι,  
εἷ κεν ὁδοῦ ζαχρεῖον ἀνήνηταί τις ὁδίτην.

ποιῖμναι μὲν βασιλῆος εὐτρίχες Αὐγείας  
οὐ πᾶσαι βόσκονται ἴαν βόσιν οὐδ' ἓνα χώρον  
ἀλλ' αἰ μὲν ῥα νέμονται ἐπ' ὄχθαις Εἰλίσσοντος,<sup>1</sup>  
αἰ δ' ἱερὸν θείοιο παρὰ ῥόον Ἀλφειοῖο,  
αἰ δ' ἐπὶ Βουπρασίου πολυβότρυς, αἰ δὲ καὶ ὧδε·  
χωρὶς δὲ σηκοὶ σφι τετυγμένοι εἰσὶν ἐκάσταις.  
αὐτὰρ βουκολίοισι περιπλήθουσὶ περ ἔμπης  
πάντεσσιν νομοὶ ὧδε τεθηλότες αἰὲν ἔασι  
Μηνίου ἄμ μέγα τίφος, ἐπεὶ μελιηδέα πόλιν  
λειμῶνες θαλέθουσιν ὑπόδροσοι εἰαμεναί τε  
εἰς ἄλιν, ἥ ῥα βόεσσι μένος κεραῆσιν ἀέξει.  
αὐλιν δὲ σφισιν ἦδε τεῆς ἐπὶ δεξιὰ χειρὸς  
φαίνεται εὖ μάλα πᾶσα πέρην ποταμοῖο ῥέοντος  
κέλην, ὅθι πλατάνιστοι ἐπηετανὰ πεφύασι  
χλωρὴ τ' ἀγριέλαιος, Ἀπόλλωνος νομίοιο  
ἱερὸν ἀγνόν, ξεῖνε, τελειοτάτοιο θεοῖο.  
εὐθύς δὲ σταθμοὶ περιμήκεες ἀγροιώταις

<sup>1</sup> Εἰλίσσοντος Meineke · mss ἀμφ' ἐλίσσοντας

## XXV —[HOW HERACLES SLEW THE LION]

AND the old ploughman that was set over the kine ceased from the work he had in hand, and answered him, saying : " Sir, I will gladly tell you all you ask of me. Trust me, I hold the vengeance of Hermes o' the Ways in mickle awe and dread ; for they say he be the wrathfullest God in Heaven an you deny a traveller guidance that hath true need of it

King Augeas' fleecy flocks, good Sir, feed not all of one pasture nor all upon one spot, but some of them be tended along Helisson, others beside divine Alpheus' sacred stream, others again by the fair vineyards of Buprasium, and yet others, look you, hereabout ; and each flock hath his several fold builded. But the herds, mark you, for all their exceeding number, find all of them their fodder sprouting ever around this great mere of river Menius ; for your watery leas and fenny flats furnish honey-sweet grass in plenty, and that is it which swells the strength of the horned kine. Their steading is all one, and 'tis there upon your right hand beyond where the river goes running again ; there where the outspreading platans and the fresh green wild-olive, Sir, make a right pure and holy sanctuary of one that is graciosest of all Gods, Apollo o' the Pastures. Hard by that spot there are builded rare and roomy quarters for us swains that

'goes running again': after leaving the mere.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

δέδμηνθ', οἷ βασιλῇ πολλὺν καὶ ἀθέσφατον ὄλβον  
 ῥυόμεθ' ἐνδυκέως, τριπόλοις σπόρον ἐν νειοῖσιν  
 ἔσθ' ὅτε βάλλοντες καὶ τετραπόλοισιν ὁμοίως.

οὖρους μὴν ἴσασι φυτοσκάφοι ἀμπελοεργοί,<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐς ληνοὺς δ' ἰκνεῦνται, ἐπὴν θέρος ὥριον ἔλθῃ.  
 πᾶν γὰρ δὴ πεδίου τόδ' ἐπίφρονος Αὐγείας,  
 πυροφόροι τε γύαι καὶ ἄλῳαι δενδρήεσσαι,  
 μέχρις ἐπ' ἐσχατιᾷς πολυπίδακος Ἀκρωρείης,  
 ἃς ἡμεῖς ἔργοισιν ἐποιχόμεθα πρόπαν ἡμαρ,  
 ἢ δίκη οἰκῶν, οἷσιν βίος ἔπλετ' ἐπ' ἀγροῦ.

30

ἀλλὰ σύ πέρ μοι ἔνισπε, τό τοι καὶ κέρδιον αὐτῷ  
 ἔσσεται, οὐτινος ὧδε κεχρημένος εἰλήλουθας.  
 ἤέ τι Αὐγείην ἢ καὶ δμῶων τινὰ κείνου  
 δίζχει, οἷ οἱ ἔασιν; ἐγὼ δέ κέ τοι σάφα εἰδώς  
 πάντα μάλ' ἐξείποιμ',<sup>2</sup> ἐπεὶ οὐ σέγε φημι κακῶν ἐξ  
 ἔμμεναι οὐδὲ κακοῖσιν ἐοικότα φύμεναι αὐτόν,  
 οἷόν τοι μέγα εἶδος ἐπιπρέπει. ἦρά νυ παῖδες  
 ἀθανάτων τοιοῖδε μετὰ θνητοῖσιν ἔασιν.

40

τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη Διὸς ἄλκιμος  
 υἱός·

‘ναὶ γέρον Αὐγείην ἐθέλοιμί κεν ἀρχὸν Ἑπειῶν  
 εἰσιδέειν· τοῦ γάρ με καὶ ἡγαγεν ἐνθάδε χρεῖώ.  
 εἰ δ' ὃ μὲν ἄρ κατὰ ἄστυ μένει παρὰ οἷσι πολίταις  
 δήμου κηδόμενος, διὰ δὲ κρίνουσι θέμιστας,  
 δμῶων δὴ τίνα πρέσβυ σύ μοι φράσον ἡγεμονεύσας,  
 ὅστις ἐπ' ἀγρῶν τῶνδε γεραιτερος αἰσυμνήτης,  
 ᾧ κε τὸ μὲν εἵποισι, τὸ δ' ἐκ φαμένοιο πυθοίμην.  
 ἄλλου δ' ἄλλον ἔθηκε θεὸς ἐπιδευέα φωτῶν.’

50

τὸν δ' ὁ γέρων ἐξαὐτίς ἀμείβετο δῖος ἀροτρεὺς,  
 ‘ἀθανάτων ὧ ξεῖνε φραδῇ τινος ἐνθάδ' ἰκάνεις,

<sup>1</sup> ἀμπελοεργοί Wil mss οἱ πολύεργοι <sup>2</sup> mss also ἀτρεκέως  
 εἵποισι'



THEOCRITUS XXV, 24-52

keep close watch over the king's so much and so marvellous prosperity; aye, we often turn the same fallows for the sowing three and four times in the year.

And as for the skirts of this domain, they are the familiar place of the busy vine-planters, who come hither to the vintage-home when the summer draweth to its end. Yea, the whole plain belongeth unto sapient Augeas, alike fat wheatfield and bosky vineyard, until thou come to the uplands of Acroieia and all his fountains; and in this plain we go to and fro about our labour all the day long as behoveth bondsmen whose life is upon the glebe.

But now pray tell me you, Sir,—as 'faith, it shall be to your profit—what it is hath brought you hither. Is your suit of Augeas himself, or of one of the bondsmen that serve him? I may tell you, even I, all you be fain to know, seeing none, I trow, can be of ill seeming or come of ill stock that makes so fine a figure of a man as you. Marry, the children of the Immortals are of such sort among mortal men."

To this the stalwart child of Zeus answered, saying: "Yea verily, gaffer, I would look upon Augeas the king of the Epeians, that which brings me hither is need of him. And so, if so be that caring for his people he abideth with them at the town to give judgment there, pray, father, carry me to one of the bondsmen that is elder and set in authority over these estates, unto whom I may tell what my suit is and have my answer of him. For 'tis God's will that one man have need of another."

And the gallant old ploughman answered him again: "Sure one of the Immortals, Sir," saith he,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὥς τοι πᾶν ὃ θέλεις αἶψα χρέος ἐκτετέλεσται.  
 ὦδε γὰρ Αὐγείης, υἱὸς φίλος Ἥελίοιο,  
 σφωιτέρῳ σὺν παιδί, βίῃ Φυλῆος ἀγαυοῦ·  
 χθιζὸς γ' εἰλήλουθεν ἀπ' ἄστεος, ἥμασι πολλοῖς  
 κτῆσιν ἐποψόμενος, ἧ οἱ νήριθμος ἐπ' ἀγρῶν·  
 ὥς που καὶ βασιλεύσιν εἴδεται ἐν φρεσὶν ᾗσιν  
 αὐτοῖς κηδομένοισι σαώτερος ἔμμεναι οἶκος.  
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν μάλα πρὸς μιν· ἐγὼ δέ τοι ἡγεμονεύσω 60  
 αὖλιν ἔφ' ἡμετέρην, ἵνα κεν τέτμοιμεν ἀνακτα.'

ὥς εἰπὼν ἡγεῖτο, νόφ' δ' ὄγε πόλλ' ἔμενοίνα,  
 δέρμα τε θηρὸς ὀρῶν χειροπληθῇ τε κορύνῃ,  
 ὀππόθεν ὁ ξεῖνος· μεμόνει<sup>1</sup> δέ μιν αἰὲν ἔρεσθαι·  
 αἶψ' δ' ὄκνη ποτὶ χεῖλος ἐλάμβανε μῦθον ἰόντα,  
 μή τί οἱ οὐ κατὰ καιρὸν ἔπος προτιμυθήσαιο  
 σπερχομένου· χαλεπὸν δ' ἐτέρου νόον ἰδμεναι  
 ἀνδρός.

τοὺς δὲ κύνες προσιόντας ἀπόπροθεν αἶψ'  
 ἐνόησαν,  
 ἀμφότερον ὁδμῇ τε χρὸς δούπῳ τε ποδοῖν.  
 θεσπέσιον δ' ὑλάοντες ἐπέδραμον ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος 70  
 Ἀμφιτρυωνιάδῃ Ἡρακλεί· τὸν δὲ γέροντα  
 ἀχρεῖον κλάζον τε περισσαινόν θ' ἐτέρωθεν.  
 τοὺς μὲν ὄγε λάεσσιν ἀπὸ χθονὸς ὅσσον ἀείρων  
 φευγέμεν αἶψ' ὀπίσω δειδίσσετο, τρηχὺ δὲ φωνῇ  
 ἡπείλει μάλα πᾶσιν, ἐρητύσασκε δ' ὑλαγμοῦ,  
 χαίρων ἐν φρεσὶν ᾗσιν, ὀθούνεκεν αὖλιν ἔρυντο  
 αὐτοῦ γ' οὐ παρέοντος· ἔπος δ' ὄγε τοῖον ἔειπεν·

<sup>1</sup> μεμόνει Buttman mss μέμοινε, μέμονε, μέμαεν

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 53-77

“hath sent you this way, so quickly come you by all you would    Augeas child of the Sun is here, and that piece of strength, his son the noble Phyleus, with him    ’Twas only yesterday he came from the town for to view after many days the possessions he hath without number upon the land    For in their hearts, ’faith, your kings are like to other men, they wot well their substance be surer if they see to it themselves    But enough; go we along to him. I will show you the way to our steading, and there it is like we find him”

With this he led on, musing as well he might concerning the skin of a beast he saw the stranger clad in, and the great club that filled his grasp, and whence he might be come; aye, and was minded and minded again to ask him right out, but ever took back the words that were even upon his tongue, for fear he should say him somewhat out of season, he being in that haste; for ’tis ill reading the mind of another man.

Now or ever they were come nigh, the dogs were quickly aware of their coming, as well by the scent of them as by the sound of their footfalls, and made at Heracles Amphytryoniad from this, that, and every side with a marvellous great clamour, and the old man, they bayed him likewise, but ’twas for baying’s sake, and they fawned him about on the further side. Then did gaffer with the mere lifting stones from off the ground fray them back again and bespake them roughly and threateningly, every one, to make them give over their clamour, howbeit rejoicing in his heart that the steading should have so good defenders when he was away, and so upspake and

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

'ὦ πόποι, οἶον τοῦτο θεοὶ ποίησαν ἄνακτες  
 θηρίων ἀνθρώποισι μετέμμεναι, ὥς ἐπιμηθές.<sup>1</sup>  
 εἴ οἱ καὶ φρένες ὦδε νοήμονες ἔνδοθεν ἦσαν, 80  
 ἦδει δ', ὃ τε χρὴ χαλεπαινέμεν ὃ τε καὶ οὐκί,  
 οὐκ ἂν οἱ θηρῶν τις ἐδήρισευ περὶ τιμῆς·  
 νῦν δὲ λίην ζάκοτόν τε καὶ ἄρρηγες γένετ' αὐτως.  
 ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἐσσυμένως ποτὶ τωὺλίον ἴξον ἰόντες.

### ΕΠΙΠΩΛΗΣΙΣ

Ἡέλιος μὲν ἔπειτα ποτὶ ζόφον ἔτραπεν<sup>2</sup> ἵππους  
 δείελον ἡμάρ ἄγων· τὰ δ' ἐπήλυθε πίονα μῆλα  
 ἐκ βοτάνης ἀνιόντα μετ' αὐλία τε σηκούς τε.  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα βόες μάλα μυρίαὶ ἄλλαι ἐπ' ἄλλαις·  
 ἐρχόμεναι φαίνονθ' ὥσει νέφη ὑδατόεντα, 90  
 ἄσσα τ' ἐν οὐρανῷ εἰσιν ἐλαυνόμενα προτέρωσε  
 ἢ ἐνότιοιο βίῃ ἢ Ἐρηκὸς βορέας·  
 τῶν μὲν τ' οὐτὶς ἀριθμὸς ἐν ἡέρι γίνετ' ἰόντων,  
 οὐδ' ἄνυσις· τόσα γάρ τε μέγα προτέροισι κυλίνδει  
 ἰς ἀνέμου, τὰ δέ τ' ἄλλα κορύσσεται αὐτὶς ἐπ'  
 ἄλλοις·

τόσσ' αἰεὶ μετόπισθε βοῶν ἐπὶ βουκόλῳ ἦει.  
 πᾶν δ' ἄρ' ἐνεπλήσθη πεδίου, πᾶσαι δὲ κέλευθοι  
 ληίδος ἐρχομένης, στείνοντο δὲ πίονες ἀγροὶ  
 μυκηθμῷ· σηκοὶ δὲ βοῶν ρεῖα πλήσθησαν  
 εἰλιπόδων, δῖες δὲ κατ' αὐλὰς ηὐλίζοντο.  
 ἔνθα μὲν οὐτὶς ἔκκηλος ἀπειρεσίων περ ἑόντων 100  
 εἰστήκει παρὰ βουσὶν ἀνὴρ κεχρημένος ἔργου·

<sup>1</sup> ἐπιμηθές Musurus: mss -θεύς  
 ἡγγγεν

<sup>2</sup> ἔτραπεν Mus mss

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 78-101

said: "Lord! what a fiery inconsiderate beast is here made of the high Gods to be with man! If there were but as great understanding within him, and he knew with whom to be angered and whom to forbear, there's no brute thing might claim such honour as he; but it may not be, and he's nought but a blusterer, wild and uncouth" This said, they quickened their steps and passed on and came to the steading

### THE VISITATION

Now had the sun turned his steeds westward and brought evening on, and the fat flocks had left the pastures and were come up among the farmyards and folds. Then it was that the cows came thousand upon thousand, came even as the watery clouds which, be it of the Southwind or the Northwind out of Thrace, come driving forward through the welkin, till there's no numbering them aloft nor no end to their coming on, so many new doth the power of the wind roll up to join the old, row after row rearing crest ever upon crest—in like multitude now came those herds of kine still up and on, up and on. Aye, all the plain was filled, and all the paths of it, with the moving cattle; the fat fields were thronged and choked with their lowing, and right readily were the byres made full of shambling kine, while the sheep settled themselves for the night in the yards

Then of a truth, for all there were hinds without number, stood there no man beside those cattle idle for want of aught to do; but here was one took

"fiery inconsiderate" the Greek word means 'one that acts first and thinks afterwards'; see *Class Rev*

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἀλλ' ὃ μὲν ἀμφὶ πόδεσσιν ἐντμήτοισιν ἱμάσι  
 καλοπέδιλ' ἀράρισκε παρασταδὸν ἐγγὺς ἀμέλγειν,  
 ἄλλος δ' αὖ νέα τέκνα φίλας ὑπὸ μητέρας<sup>1</sup> ἔει  
 πινέμεναι λαροῖο μεμαότα πάγχυ γάλακτος,  
 ἄλλος ἀμόλγιον εἶχ', ἄλλος τρέφε πίονα τυρόν,  
 ἄλλος ἐσήγεν ἔσω ταύρους δίχα θηλειάων.  
 Αὐγείης δ' ἐπὶ πάντας ἰὼν θηεῖτο βοαύλους,  
 ἦντινὰ οἱ κτεάνων κομιδὴν ἐτίθεντο νομῆς,  
 σὺν δ' υἱὸς τε βίη τε βαρύφρονος Ἡρακλῆος  
 ὠμάρτευν βασιλῆι διερχομένῳ μέγαν ὄλβον.  
 ἔνθα καὶ ἄρρηκτόν περ ἔχων ἐν στήθεσι θυμὸν  
 Ἀμφιτρωνιάδης καὶ ἀρηρότα νωλεμέσ αἰεὶ  
 ἐκπάγλως θαύμαζε θεοῦ<sup>2</sup> τόγε μυρίον ἔδνον  
 εἰσορόων. οὐ γάρ κεν ἔφασκέ τις οὐδὲ ἐώλπει  
 ἀνδρὸς ληΐδ' ἐνὸς τόσσην ἔμεν οὐδὲ δέκ' ἄλλων,  
 οἵτε πολύρρηγες πάντων ἔσαν ἐκ βασιλῆων.  
 Ἡέλιος δ' ὃ παιδὶ τόγ' ἔξοχον ὥπασε δῶρον,  
 ἀφνειὸν μήλοισι περὶ πάντων ἔμμεναι ἀνδρῶν,  
 καὶ ῥά οἱ αὐτὸς ὄφειλλε διαμπερέως βοτὰ πάντα  
 ἐς τέλος· οὐ μὲν γάρ τις ἐπήλυθε νοῦσος ἐκείνου  
 βουκολίοις, αἴτ' ἔργα καταφθείρουσι<sup>3</sup> νομῶν,  
 αἰεὶ δὲ πλέονες κερααὶ βόες, αἰὲν ἀμείνους  
 ἐξ ἔτεος γίνοντο μάλ' εἰς ἔτος· ἦ γὰρ ἅπασαι  
 ζωοτόκοι τ' ἦσαν περιώσια θηλυτόκοι τε.  
 ταῖς δὲ τριηκόσιοι ταῦροι συνάμ' ἐστιχόωντο  
 κνήμαργοί θ' ἑλικές τε, διηκόσιοι γέ μιν ἄλλοι

<sup>1</sup> thus Mus mss φίλαις ὑπὸ μητράσιν    <sup>2</sup> θεοῦ Wil: mss  
 θεῶν    <sup>3</sup> καταφθείρουσι Mus mss -φθίνουσι

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 102-127

thongs cut straight and true and had their feet to the hobbles for to come at the milking, here was another took thirsty yeanlings and put them to drink of their dams' sweet warm milk; this again held the milking-pail, and that did curd the milk for a good fat cheese, and yonder was one a-bringing in the bulls apart from the heifers. Meanwhile King Augeas went his rounds of the byres to see what care his herdsmen might have of his goods; and through all that great wealth of his there went with him his son also, and deeply pondering, Heracles in his might.

And now, albeit he was possessed within him of a heart of iron ever and without ceasing unmoved, the child of Amphitryon fell marvellously a-wondering, as well he might, when he saw the unnumbered bride-gift of the God. Indeed, no man would have said, nay, nor thought, that so many cattle could belong to ten men, let alone one; and those ten must needs have been rich in sheep and oxen beyond any kings. For the Sun did give him that was his child a most excellent gift, to wit to be the greatest master of flocks in the world; and what is more, himself did make them all to thrive and prosper unceasingly without end, for of all the distempers that destroy the labours of a keeper of oxen never came there one upon that man's herds, but rather did his horned dams wax ever year in year out both more in number and better in kind, being never known to cast their young and all passing good bringers of cow-calves.

Moreover there went with them three hundred bulls, white-shanked and crump-horned, and other

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 128-154

two hundred dun, and all leapers grown; and over and above these, there was a herd of twelve sacred to the Sun, and the colour of them glistening white like a swan, so that they did outshine all shambling things, and what is more, they were lone-grazers all in the springing pastures, so marvellous proud were they and haughty, and the same, when swift beasts of the field came forth of the shag forest after the kine that went in herds, ever at the smell of them would out the first to battle, bellowing dreadfully and glancing death

Now of these twelve the highest and mightiest both for strength and mettle was the great Lucifer, whom all the herdsmen likened to that star, for that going among the other cattle he shined exceeding bright and conspicuous; and this fellow, when he espied that tanned skin of a grim lion, came at the watchful wearer of it for to have at his sides with his great sturdy front. But my lord up with a strong hand and clutched him by the left horn and bowed that his heavy neck suddenly downward, and putting his shoulder to't had him back again; and the muscle of his upper arm was drawn above the sinews till it stood on a heap. And the king marvelled, both he and his son the warlike Phyleus, and the hinds also that were set over the crump-horned kine, when they beheld the mettlesome might of the child of Amphitryon.

Then did Phyleus and Heracles the mighty leave the fat fields behind them and set out for the town.

him at ll. 68 ff mss ἀγροτεράων (or ποτεράων), but the cattle were not wild.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

λαοφόρου δ' ἐπέβησαν ὅθι πρῶτιστα κελεύθου,  
 λεπτήν καρπαλίμοισι τρίβον ποσὶν ἐξανύσαντες,  
 ἣ ῥα δι' ἀμπελεῶνος ἀπὸ σταθμῶν τετάνυστο  
 οὔτι λήν ἀρίσημος ἐν ὕλῃ χλωρᾷ ἰούσα,<sup>1</sup>  
 τῇ μιν ἄρα προσέειπε Διὸς γόνον ὑψίστοιο  
 Αὐγείῳ φίλος υἱὸς ἔθεν μετόπισθεν ἰόντα,<sup>2</sup>  
 ἦκα παρακλίνας κεφαλὴν κατὰ δεξιὸν ὦμον  
 'ξείνε, πάλαι τινὰ πάγχυ σέθεν πέρι μῦθον  
 ἀκούσας  
 ὥς, εἴπερ,<sup>3</sup> σφετέρησιν ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλομαι ἄρτι.  
 ἦλυθε γὰρ στείχων τις ἀπ' Ἀργεος ὥς νέον ἀκμὴν<sup>4</sup>  
 ἐνθάδ' Ἀχαιὸς ἀνὴρ Ἑλίκης ἐξ ἀγχιάλιοι,  
 ὃς δὴ τοι μυθεῖτο καὶ ἐν πλεόνεσσιν Ἐπειῶν,  
 οὔνεκεν Ἀργείων τις ἔθεν παρεόντος ὄλεσσε  
 θηρίον, αἰνολέοντα, κακὸν τέρας ἀγροιώταις,  
 κοίλῃν αὐλὴν ἔχοντα Διὸς Νεμέοιο παρ' ἄλσος—  
 οὐκ οἶδ' ἀτρεκέως ἢ Ἀργεος ἐξ ἱεροῖο  
 αὐτόθεν ἢ Τίρυνθα νέμων πόλιν ἢ Μυκλήν.  
 ὥς κείνός γ' ἀγόρευε· γένος δέ μιν εἶναι ἔφασκεν,  
 εἰ ἑτεὸν περ ἐγὼ μιμνήσκομαι, ἐκ Περσῆος  
 ἔλπομαι οὐχ' ἕτερον τόδε τλήμεναι αἰγιαλῶν  
 ἢ σέ, δέρμα δέ θηρός, ὃ τοι περὶ πλευρὰ καλύπτει,<sup>5</sup>  
 χειρῶν καρτερόν ἔργον ἀριφραδέως ἀγορεύει.  
 εἴπ' ἄγε νῦν μοι πρῶτον, ἵνα γνῶω κατὰ θυμόν,  
 ἦρως, εἴτ' ἐτύμως μαντεύομαι εἴτε καὶ οὐκί,  
 εἰ σὺ γ' ἐκεῖνος, ὃν ἦμιν ἀκούοντεςσιν ἔειπεν  
 οὐξ Ἑλίκηθεν Ἀχαιός, ἐγὼ δέ σε φράζομαι ὀρθῶς·  
 εἰπέ δ' ὅπως ὀλοοῦν τόδε θηρίον αὐτὸς ἔπεφνες,

<sup>1</sup> ἰούσα E: mss ἐούση by confusion with the corrupt end of  
 l 160    <sup>2</sup> mss also ἰόντα    <sup>3</sup> εἴπερ elliptical as in Plat  
 Rep 497 e    <sup>4</sup> νέον ἀκμὴν E 'still (cf. 4 60) recently (cf.

# THEOCRITUS XXV, 155-181

Their swift feet were gotten to the end of the little path which stretched from the farmsteads through the vineyard and ran not over-clearly in the midst of the fresh greenery, and they were just come to the people's highway, when the dear son of Augeas up and spake to the child of most high Zeus that was following behind him, and with a little turn of his head over his right shoulder, "Sir," says he, "there's somewhat I had heard of you, and O how late am I, if of you it were, to bethink me on't but now! 'Tis not long since there came hither from Argos an Achæan of Helicè-by-the-sea, who told a tale, look you, unto more than one of us Epeians, how that he had seen an Argive slay a beast of the field, to wit a lion dire that was the dread of the countryside and had the den of his lying beside the grove of Zeus of Nemea—yet he knew not for sure, he said, whether the man was truly of sacred Argos itself or was a dweller in Tiryns town or in Mycenæ. Howbeit, such was his tale, and he said also, if I remember true, that for his lineage the man was of Perseus

Now methinks there is but one of those men-o'-the-shore could do a deed like that, and you are he; moreover the wild-beast-skin your frame is clad in signifieth clearly enough the prowess of your hands. Come on, my lord, have me well to wit, first whether my boding be true or no, whether you be he the Achæan of Helicè told us of, and I know you for what you are, and then tell me, pray, how yourself destroyed that same pestilent beast and how

Hom.),<sup>2</sup> i.e. it is a thing that can be still called recent: mss νέος ἀκμὴν or μέσος ἀκμῆς<sup>5</sup> thus Meineke transposes the latter halves of these lines

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὅππως τ' εὐνδρον Νεμέης εἰσήλυθε χῶρον·  
οὐ μὲν γάρ κε τοσόνδε κατ' Ἀπίδα κνώδαλον  
εὐροις

ἰμείρων ἰδέειν, ἐπεὶ οὐ μάλα τηλίκᾳ βόσκει,  
ἀλλ' ἄρκτους τε σύας τε λύκων τ' ὀλοφώϊον ἔθνος.  
τῷ καὶ θαυμάζεσκον ἀκούοντες τότε μῦθον·  
οἱ δέ νυ καὶ ψεύδεσθαι ὁδοιπόρον ἀνὲρ' ἔφαντο  
γλώσσης μαψιδίοιο χαριζόμενον παρεούσιν.”

ὥς εἰπὼν μέσσης ἐξηρώησε κελεύθου  
Φυλεύς, ὅφρα κιούσιν ἅμα σφισιν ἄρκιος εἴη,  
καὶ ῥά τε ῥήϊτερον φαμένου κλύοι Ἡρακλῆος·  
ὅς μιν ὁμαρτήσας τοίῳ προσελέξατο μῦθῳ·

“ὦ Αὐγυιάδῃ, τὸ μὲν ὅττι με πρῶτον ἀνῆρεν,  
αὐτὸς καὶ μάλα ῥεῖα κατὰ στάθμην ἐνόησας.  
ἀμφὶ δέ σοι τὰ ἕκαστα λέγοιμί κε τοῦδε πελώρου  
ὅππως ἐκράανθεν, ἐπεὶ λελίησαι ἀκούειν,  
νόσφιν γ' ἣ ὅθεν ἦλθε· τὸ γὰρ πολέων περ ἐόντων  
Ἀργείων οὐδεὶς κεν ἔχοι σάφα μυθήσασθαι·  
οἷον δ' ἀθανάτων τίν' εἰσκομεν ἀνδράσι πῆμα  
ἱρῶν μηνίσαντα Φορωνήεσσιν ἐφείναι.

πάντας γάρ πισῆας ἐπικλύζων ποταμὸς ὥς  
λῆς ἄμοτον κεραίζε, μάλιστα δὲ Βεμβιναίους  
οἱ ἔθεν ἀγχόμοροι προσναῖον ἀτλητοπαθεῖντες.<sup>1</sup>

τὸν μὲν ἐμοὶ πρῶτιστα τελεῖν ἐπέταξεν ἄεθλον  
Εὐρυσθεύς, κτεῖναι δέ μ' ἐφίετο θηρίου αἰνόν.  
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κέρας ὑγρὸν ἔλων κοίλῃν τε φαρέτρην  
ἰὼν ἐμπλείην νεόμην, ἐτέρηφι δὲ βάκτρον  
εὐπαγὲς αὐτοφλοῖον ἐπηρεφέος κοτίνιοιο  
ἔμμητρον, τὸ μὲν αὐτὸς ὑπὸ ζαθέῳ Ἑλικῶνι

<sup>1</sup> προσναῖον· mss also ναῖον ἀτλητοπαθεῖντες E· mss  
ἀτλητα παθέοντες or παθόντες

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 182-209

he came to be dwelling in the well-watered vale of Nemea; for I ween you shall not find such a creature as that if you would, the Apian lands around, seeing they breed not anything so huge, but only the bear and the boar and the fell wolf. Therefore, also did they wonder that heard that tale; indeed they said the traveller lied with intent to pleasure the company with an idle tongue."

With these words Phyleus bent him sidelong from the midst of the road both to make room enough for them twain to go together, and that he might the easier hear what Heracles had to say. Who now came abreast of him, and "Son of Augeas" quoth he, "your former question you have answered yourself, readily and aright; but of this monster, being you so desire it, I will tell you how it all fell out every whit, save whence he came; for not one man in all Argos can speak certainly to that, only were we persuaded it was some God sent him to vex the children of Phoroneus because he was wroth concerning some sacrifices. For all the lowlanders were whelmed with him as he had been a river in flood; he plundered them all without cloy or surfeit, but most of all the people of Bembina, whose borders to their very great and intolerable misfortune marched with his

Now this did Eurystheus make my very first task; he charged me to slay that direful beast. So I took with me my supple bow and a good quiverful of arrows, and in the other hand a stout cudgel, made, without peeling or pithing, of a shady wild-olive which myself had found under holy Helicon and torn up

"the Apian lands"    the Peloponnese

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εὐρὼν σὺν πυκινῇσιν ὀλοσχερὲς ἔσπασα ρίζαις  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τὸν χώρον, ὅθι λῆς ἦεν, ἵκανον,  
 δὴ τότε τόξον ἑλὼν στρεπτήν ἐπέλασσα κορῶν  
 νευρεῖν, περὶ δ' ἰὼν ἐχέστονον εἶθαρ ἔβησα.  
 πάντῃ δ' ὅσσε φέρων ὀλοὸν τέρας ἐσκοπίαζον,  
 εἴ μιν ἐσαθρήσαιμι πάρος τί με κεῖνον ιδέσθαι.  
 ἡματος ἦν τὸ μεσηγύ, καὶ οὐδέπῃ ἵχνια τοιοῦτο<sup>1</sup>  
 φρασθῆναι δυνάμην οὐδ' ὠρυγμοῖο πυθέσθαι.  
 οὐδὲ μὲν ἀνθρώπων τις ἦν ἐπὶ βουσί καὶ ἔργοις  
 φαινόμενος σπορίμοιο δι' αὐλακος, ὄντιν' ἐροίμην·  
 ἀλλὰ κατὰ σταθμοὺς χλωρὸν δέος εἶχεν ἕκαστον.  
 οὐ μὴν πρὶν πόδας ἔσχον ὄρος τανύφυλλον ἐρευνῶν,  
 πρὶν ιδέειν ἀλκῆς τε μεταυτίκα πειρηθῆναι.

ἦτοι δ' μὲν σήραγγά προδείελος ἔστιχεν εἰς ἦν,  
 βεβρωκὼς κρειῶν τε καὶ αἵματος, ἀμφὶ δὲ χαίτας  
 αὐχμηρὰς πεπάλακτο φόνῳ χαροπὸν τε πρόσωπον  
 στήθεά τε, γλώσση δὲ περιλιχμάτο γένειον.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ θάμνοισιν ἄφαρ σκιεροῖσιν ἐκρύφθην  
 ἐν τρίβῳ ὑλήεντι δεδεγμένος ὀππὸθ' ἵκοιτο,  
 καὶ βάλλον ἄσσον ἰόντος ἀριστερὸν ἐς κενεῶνα  
 τηυσίως· οὐ γάρ τι βέλος διὰ σαρκὸς ὄλισθεν  
 ὀκριόεν, χλωρῇ δὲ παλίσσυτον ἔμπεσε ποίη.  
 αὐτὰρ ὃ κρᾶτα δαφοινὸν ἀπὸ χθονὸς ὦκ' ἐπάειρε  
 θαμβήσας, πάντῃ δὲ διέδρακεν ὀφθαλμοῖσι  
 σκεπτόμενος, λαμυροὺς δὲ χανὼν ὑπέδειξεν ὀδόν-  
 τας<sup>2</sup>

τῷ δ' ἐγὼ ἄλλον ὀιστὸν ἀπὸ νευρῆς προΐαλλον  
 ἀσχαλόων, ὃ μοι ὁ<sup>3</sup> πρὶν ἐτώσιος ἔκφυγε χειρός·  
 μεσσηγὺς δ' ἔβαλον στηθέων, ὅθι πνεύμονος ἔδρη.

<sup>1</sup> οὐδέπῃ Cholmeley mss οὐδ' ἔπη or οὐδενός mss also τοῖα <sup>2</sup> mss also ὅπ' ὀδόντας ἔφαινε <sup>3</sup> ὃ Hermann mss ἔτι, ὥς, ὅς δ added by Hermann

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 210-237

whole and complete with all her branching roots; and so forth and made for those parts where the lion was. Whither when I was come, I took and tipped my sting, and straightway notched a bearer of pain and grief, and fell a-looking this way and that way after the pestilent monster, if so be I might espy him ere he should espy me 'Twas midday now, yet could I nowhere mark his track nor hear his roaring, neither was there any man set over a plough-team and the toil of the seed-furrow that I could see and ask of him, being pale wan fear kept every man at the farmstead Howbeit, I never gave over to search the leafy uplands till I should behold him and put my strength speedily to the test.

Now towards evening he came his ways unto his den full fed both of flesh and gore, his tangled mane, his grim visage and all his chest spattered with blood, and his tongue licking his chops To waylay him I hid myself quickly in a brake beside the woody path, and when he came near let fly at his left flank But it availed me not; the barbed shaft could not pass the flesh, but glanced and fell on the fresh green sward Astonied, the beast lift suddenly up his gory head, and looked about him and about, opening his mouth and showing his gluttonous teeth; whereupon I sped another shaft from the string (for I took it ill that the first had left my hand to no purpose), and smote him clean in the middle of the chest where

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς ὑπὸ βύρσαν ἔδν πολυώδυνος ἰός,  
ἀλλ' ἔπεσε προπάροιθε ποδῶν ἀνεμῶλιος αὐτῶς.

τὸ τρίτον αὖ μέλλεσκον ἀσώμενος ἐν φρεσὶν  
αἰνῶς

240

αὐερύειν· ὃ δέ μ' εἶδε περιγληνώμενος ὄσσοις  
θῆρ ἄμοτος, μακρὴν δὲ περ' ἰγνύησιν ἔλιξε  
κέρκον, ἄφαρ δὲ μάχης ἐμνήσατο· πᾶς δέ οἱ αὐχὴν  
θυμοῦ ἐνεπλήσθη, πυρσαὶ δ' ἔφριξαν ἔθειραι  
σκυζομένῳ, κυρτὴ δὲ ῥάχῃς γένετ' ἡῦτε τόξον,  
πάντοθεν εἰλυθέντος ὑπὸ λαγόνας τε καὶ ἰξύν.

ὥς δ' ὅταν ἄρματοπηγὸς ἀνὴρ πολέων ἵδρις ἔργων  
ὄρπηκας κάμπτησιν ἐρινεοῦ εὐκεάτοιο,<sup>1</sup>

θάλψας ἐν πυρὶ πρῶτον, ἐπαξονίῳ κύκλα δίφρῳ,  
τοῦ μὲν ὑπὲκ χειρῶν ἔφυγεν τανύφλοιος ἐρινεὸς

250

καμπτόμενος, τηλοῦ δὲ μὴ πῆδησε σὺν ὀρμῇ·  
ὥς ἐπ' ἐμοὶ λῖς αἰνὸς ἀπόπροθεν ἀθρόος ἄλτο

μαιμώνων χροὸς αἶσαι· ἐγὼ δ' ἐτέρηφι βέλεμνα  
χειρὶ προεσχεθόμην καὶ ἀπ' ὤμων δίπλακα λώπην,

τῇ δ' ἐτέρῃ ῥόπαλον κόρσης ὑπερ αὖον αἰείρας  
ἤλασα κακ κεφαλῆς, διὰ δ' ἀνδιχα τρηχύν ἔαξα

αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ λασίοιο καρήατος ἀγριέλαιον  
θηρὸς ἀμαιμακέτοιο· πέσεν δ' ὄγε πρὶν ἐμ' ἰκέσθαι

ὑψόθεν ἐν γαίῃ, καὶ ἐπὶ τρομεροῖς ποσὶν ἔστη  
νευστάζων κεφαλῇ· περὶ γὰρ σκότος ὅσσε οἱ ἄμφω

260

ἦλθε, βίῃ σεισθέντος ἐν ὀστέῳ ἐγκεφάλαιο.

τὸν μὲν ἐγὼν ὀδύνησι παραφρονέοντα βαρεῖαις  
νωσάμενος, πρὶν αὐτὶς ὑπότροπον ἀμπνυνθῆναι,  
αὐχένος ἀρρήκτοιο παρ' ἰνίου ἤλασα<sup>2</sup> προφθιάς,  
ρίψας τόξον ἔραζε πολύρραπτόν τε φαρέτρην·

<sup>1</sup> mss also εὐκάμπτοιο

<sup>2</sup> ἤλασα mss also ἔφθασα

## THEOCRITUS XXV, 238-265

the lungs do he But nay; not even so was the  
hide of him to be pierced of the sore grievous arrow,  
there it fell vain and frustrate at his feet

At this I waxed exceeding distempered and made  
to draw for the third time But, ere that, the ravening  
beast rolled around his eyes and beheld me, and  
lashing all his tail about his hinder parts bethought  
him quickly of battle Now was his neck brimming  
with ire, his tawny tresses an-end for wrath, his chine  
arched like a bow, as he gathered him up all together  
unto flank and loin. Then even as, when a  
wainwright, cunning man, takes the seasoned wild-fig  
boughs he hath warmed at the fire and bends them  
into wheels for an axled chariot, the thin-rinded  
figwood escapes at the bending from his grasp and  
leaps at one bound afar, even so did that dreadful lion  
from a great way off spring upon me, panting to be  
at my flesh Then it was that with the one hand I  
thrust before me the cloak from my shoulders folded  
about my bunched arrows, and with the other lift  
my good sound staff above my head and down with  
it on his crown, and lo! my hard wild-olive was  
broke clean in twain on the mere shaggy pate of  
that unconquishable beast Yet as for him, or ever  
he could reach me he was fallen from the midst of  
his spring, and so stood with trembling feet and  
wagging head, his two eyes being covered in dark-  
ness because the brains were all-to-shaken in the  
skull of him

Perceiving now that he was all abroad with the  
pain and grief of it, ere he might recover his wits  
I cast my bow and my brodered quiver upon the  
ground and let drive at the nape of that massy



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἦγχιον δ' ἐγκρατέως στιβαρὰς σὺν χεῖρας ἐρείσας  
 ἐξόπιθεν, μὴ σάρκας ἀποδρύψῃ ὀνύχεσσι,  
 πρὸς δ' οὐδας πτέρυγῃσι πόδας στερεῶς ἐπίεζον  
 οὐραίους<sup>1</sup> ἐπιβίς, πλευρῇσί τε μῆρ' ἐφύλασσον,  
 μέχρῃς οὐ ἐξεάνυσσα βραχίονος<sup>2</sup> ὀρθὸν αἶρας  
 ἄπνευστον, ψυχὴν δὲ πελώριος ἔλλαβεν<sup>3</sup> Ἀιδης.  
 καὶ τότε δὴ βούλευον, ὅπως λασιαύχενά βύρσαν  
 θηρὸς τεθνεώτος ἀπὸ μελέων ἐρυσαίμην,  
 ἀργαλέον μάλα μόχθον, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἦν οὔτε<sup>4</sup> σιδήρῳ  
 οὔτε λίθοις τμητῇ<sup>5</sup> πειρωμένῳ οὐδέ μιν ὕλη.  
 ἔνθα μοι ἀθανάτων τις ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε νοῆσαι  
 αὐτοῖς δέρμα λέοντος ἀνασχίζειν ὀνύχεσσι.  
 τοῖσι θοῶς ἀπέδειρα, καὶ ἀμφεθέμην μελέεσσιν  
 ἔρκος ἐνναλίου ταμεσίχροος ἰωχμοῖο.  
 οὗτός τοι Νεμέου γένητ' ὦ φίλε θηρὸς ὄλεθρος,  
 πολλὰ πάρος μῆλοις τε καὶ ἀνδράσι κήδεα θέντος."

<sup>1</sup> mss also οὐραίου and οὐραίη    <sup>2</sup> mss also μέχρῃ    οὐ E.  
 mss οἱ    mss and Musurus also βραχίονας and -να    <sup>3</sup> mss  
 also ἔλλαχεν    <sup>4</sup> ἦν οὔτε Wil    mss ἔσχε    <sup>5</sup> thus Memeke-  
 mss τμητῇ οὐδὲ λίθοις

THEOCRITUS XXV, 266-281

neck Then from the rear, lest he should tear me with his talons, I got my arms about his throat, and treading his hind-paws hard into the ground for to keep the legs of them from my sides, held on with might and main till at length I could rear him backward by the foreleg, and so stretched him strangled on the ground, and vasty Hades received his spirit.

That done, I fell a-pondering how I might flay me off the dead beast's shag-neckèd skin. 'What a task!' thought I; for there was no cutting that, neither with wood nor with stone nor yet with iron. At that moment one of the Immortals did mind me I should cut up the lion's skin with the lion's talons So I to it, and had him flayed in a trice, and cast the skin about me for a defence against the havoc of gashing war

Such, good friend, was the slaying of the Lion of Nemea, that had brought so much and sore trouble both upon man and beast "



## XXVI —THE BACCHANALS

THIS poem was probably written in honour of the initiation of a boy of nine into the mysteries of Dionysus by a mock slaying-rite. That young children were initiated into these mysteries is clear from a poem of Antistius in the *Anthology*, which may have been written for a similar occasion, and in Callimachus Artemis asks that her maiden attendants shall be nine years old<sup>1</sup>. In this poem the father describes the slaying of Pentheus by his mother, and takes credit to himself for following her example. The slaying of the boy is the bringing of him to Dionysus, even as the eagles made Ganymede immortal by bringing him to Zeus. The poem is almost certainly not by Theocritus, but such poems may well have figured in the competitions mentioned in line 112 of the Ptolemy.

<sup>1</sup> Antist. *Anth. Pal.* 11. 40, Callim. 3. 14, quoted by Cholmeley.

# XXVI—ΛΗΝΑΙ Η ΒΑΚΧΑΙ

Ἴνῳ καὺτονόα χαῖ μαλοπάραυος Ἀγαυά  
 τρεῖς θιάσως ἐς ὄρος τρεῖς ἄγαγον αὐταὶ εἰοῖσαι.  
 χαῖ μὲν ἀμερξάμεναι λασσίας δρυὸς ἄγρια φύλλα  
 κισσόν τε ζῶοντα καὶ ἀσφόδελον τὸν ὑπὲρ γᾶς  
 ἐν καθαρῷ λειμῶνι κάμον δυοκαίδεκα βωμῶς,  
 τῶς τρεῖς τῇ Σεμέλῃ, τῶς ἐννέα τῇ Διούσῃ.  
 ἱερὰ δ' ἐκ κίστας πεποναμένα χερσὶν ἐλοῖσαι  
 εὐφάμως κατέθεντο νεοδρέπτων ἐπὶ βωμῶν,  
 ὥς ἐδίδασχ', ὥς αὐτὸς ἐθυμάρει Διόνυσος.  
 Πενθεὺς δ' ἀλιβύτου πέτρας ἄπο πάντ' ἐθεώρει, 10  
 σχῖνον ἐς ἀρχαίαν καταδύς, ἐπιχώριον ἔρνος.  
 Αὐτονόα πράτα νιν ἀνέκραγε δεινὸν ἰδοῖσα,  
 σὺν δ' ἐτάραξε ποσὶν μανιώδεος ὄργια Βάκχῳ,  
 ἐξαπίνας ἐπιοῖσα· τὰ δ' οὐχ ὀρέοντι βέβηλοι.  
 μαίνεται μὲν θ' αὐτα, μαίνονται δ' ἄρ' εὐθὺ καὶ  
 ἄλλαι.<sup>1</sup>  
 Πενθεὺς μὲν φεύγεν πεφοβημένος, αἰ δ' ἐδίωκον,  
 πέπλως ἐκ ζωστήρος ἐς ἰγνύαν ἐρύσαισαι.  
 Πενθεὺς μὲν τόδ' ἔειπε “τίνος κέχρησθε γυναῖκες,”  
 Αὐτονόα τόδ' ἔειπε “τάχα γνώσῃ πρὶν ἀκοῦσαι.”  
 μάτηρ τὰν κεφαλὰν μυκήσατο παιδὸς ἐλοῖσα, 20  
 ὅσσον περ τοκάδος τελέθει μύκημα λεαίνας·  
 Ἴνῳ δ' ἐξέρρηξε σὺν ὠμοπλάτῃ μέγαν ὦμον

<sup>1</sup> ἄλλαι: Ahrens mss ἄλλαι

## XXVI.—THE BACCHANALS

THREE dames led three memies to the mountain, Ino, Autonoe, and apple-cheeked Agavè, and gathering there wild leaves of the shag-haired oak, and living ivy and groundling asphodel, wrought in a lawn of the forest twelve altars, unto Semelè three and unto Dionysus nine. Then took they from a box offerings made of their hands and laid them in holy silence upon those altars of their gathering, as was at once the precept and the pleasure of the great Dionysus. Meanwhile Pentheus spied upon all they did from a steepy crag, being crept into an ancient mastich-tree such as grow in that country. Autonoe saw him first and gave a horrible shriek, and made quick confusion of the sacred things of the madding Bacchus with her feet, for these things are not to be seen of the profane. Mad was she now, and the others were straightway mad also. Pentheus, he fled afraid, and the women, girding their kirtles up about their thighs, they went in hot pursuit. Pentheus, he cried "What would you, ye women?" Autonoe, she cried "That shall you know ere you hear it." Then took off the mother the head of her child and roared even as the roar of a milch lioness, while Ino setting foot upon his belly wrenched shoulder and shoulder-blade from the one side of

"apple-cheeked" the Greek may also mean 'white-faced'

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

λάξ ἐπὶ γαστέρα βᾶσα, καὶ Αὐτονόας ῥυθμὸς  
 ωύτός·

αἱ δ' ἄλλαι τὰ περισσὰ κρεανομέοντο γυναῖκες.  
 ἐς Θήβας δ' ἀφίκοντο πεφυρμέναι αἵματι πᾶσαι,  
 ἐξ ὄρεος πένθημα καὶ οὐ Πενθῆα φέροισαι.

οὐκ ἀλέγω· μηδ' ἄλλος ἀπεχθομένω<sup>1</sup> Διονύσῳ  
 φροντίζοι, μηδ' εἰ χαλεπώτερα τῶν δε μογήσαι,<sup>2</sup>  
 εἴη δ' ἐνναέτης ἢ καὶ δεκάτω ἐπιβαῖνοι·  
 αὐτὸς δ' εὐαγέοιμι καὶ εὐαγέεσσιν ᾄδοιμι.  
 ἐκ Διὸς αἰγιόχῳ τιμὰν ἔχει αἰετὸς οὕτως.  
 εὐσεβέων παίδεσσι τὰ λῶια, δυσσεβέων δ' οὔ.

χαῖροι μὲν Διόνυσος, ὃν ἐν Δρακάνφ νιφόντι  
 Ζεὺς ὕπατος μεγάλην ἐπιγουνίδα κάτθετο λύσας·  
 χαῖροι δ' εὐειδῆς Σεμέλα καὶ ἀδελφεαὶ αὐτᾶς  
 Καδμεῖαι πολλοῖς μεμελημέναι ἡρώϊναι,<sup>3</sup>  
 αἱ τότε ἔργον ἔρεξαν ὀρίναντος Διονύσου  
 οὐκ ἐπιμωματόν. μηδεὶς τὰ θεῶν ὀνόσαιτο.

<sup>1</sup> ἀπεχθομένω Beigk mss -γαι      <sup>2</sup> δὲ μογήσαι Ahr mss  
 δ' ἐμόγησε      <sup>3</sup> thus Giaeke mss πολλὰς and ἡρώϊναι

## THEOCRITUS XXVI, 23-38

him, and Autonoe made the other side like unto it; and the other women wrought out the rest of the butchery And so bedabbled all with blood they carried with them into Thebes in the stead of a kindred wight a kindred woe.

And I care not if they did, and pray no other may take thought for any that is hated of Dionysus, nay, not if such an one suffer a worse fate than Pentheus and be but a child nine years old or going ten years As for me, may I be pure and do the will of them that are pure Thus hath the eagle honour of the Aegis-Beaver. To the children of pious fathers belong the good things rather than to those that come of impious men

All hail to Dionysus, whom most high Zeus took forth from his mighty thigh and laid down in snowy Dracanus, and all hail to beauteous Semele and her heroine sisters, the far-honoured daughters of Cadmus who did at Dionysus' bidding this deed that none may blame Where 'tis a God's will let no man cavil

"Made the other side like unto it" the Greek is 'Autonoe's rhythm was the same,' i.e. 'Autonoe followed suit' "Kindred wight", the Greek has a grim pun upon *Pentheus* and *penthēma* (woe)





## XXVII.—THE LOVERS' TALK

*THIS poem in its complete form was a match between a shepherd and another whom he had challenged, the stake being the shepherd's pipe. The missing part comprised the lines introducing the match, the whole of the rival's piece, and the prelude of the shepherd's piece. What is left is the main part of the shepherd's piece, its epilogue, and the award of the umpire. The umpire returns the shepherd his pipe, and adds a compliment in the form of a request that now he will play him another of his tunes, as, not having lost his pipe in the match, he will still be able to do. In the dialogue supposed to be recited, or perhaps to be sung, by the shepherd, one speaker answers the other speaker line for line except in two places where the same speaker has two lines. These exceptions, necessary in order to shift the rôle of answerer, have brought about a wrong arrangement of lines 9 and 19 in the manuscripts. The poem may be ascribed to an imitator of Theocritus. Line 4 he has taken bodily from him.*

XXVII —[ΟΑΡΙΣΤΤΣ]

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

Τὰν πιυντὰν Ἑλέναν Πάρις ἥρπασε βουκόλος  
ἄλλος.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μᾶλλον ἑκοῖς<sup>1</sup> Ἑλένα τὸν βουκόλον ἐσσὶ<sup>1</sup> φιλεῦσα.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

μὴ<sup>2</sup> καυχῶ σατυρίσκει· κενὸν τὸ φίλαμα λέγουσιν.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἔστι καὶ ἐν κενεοῖσι φιλάμασιν ἀδέα τέρψις.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

τὸ στόμα μευ πλύνω καὶ ἀποπτύω τὸ φίλαμα.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

πλύνεις χεῖλεα σείω, δίδου πάλιν, ὄφρα φιλάσω

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

καλὸν σοι δαμάλας φιλέειν, οὐκ ἄζυγα κώραν

<sup>1</sup> ἑκοῖς Ahrens mss ἐδοῖς ἐσσὶ E mss ἐστὶ <sup>2</sup> μὴ  
Musurus. mss omit

## XXVII – [THE LOVERS' TALK]

*(The Shepherd tells of the conversation between  
Daphnis and Acrotimè)*

ACROTIME

'Twas a neatherd like you carried off the wise  
Helen

DAPHNIS

Helen is more willing now, for she kisses her  
neatherd

ACROTIME

Soft, my satyr-boy, be not so sure, there's a saying  
"nought goes to a kiss"

DAPHNIS

Even in an empty kiss there's a sweet delight

ACROTIME

Look ye, I wipe my mouth o' your kiss and spit it  
from me

DAPHNIS

Wipe thy lips, quotha? then give them hither  
again and have thee another

ACROTIME

'Twere rather becoming you to kiss your heifers  
than a maiden woman like me

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μὴ καυχῶ τάχα γάρ σε παρέρχεται ὥς ὄναρ ἤβη.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ἂ σταφυλὶς σταφίς ἐστι καὶ οὐ ῥόδον αὖτον ὀλεῖται.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἦδε τί γηράσκη, τόδε πού μέλι καὶ γάλα πίνω.<sup>1</sup>  
δεῦρ' ὑπὸ τὰς κοτίνους, ἵνα σοί τινα μῦθον ἐνέψω.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

οὐκ ἐθέλω· καὶ πρὶν με παρήπαφες ἀδεί μύθω.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

δεῦρ' ὑπὸ τὰς πτελέας, ἵν' ἐμᾶς σύριγγος ἀκούσῃς.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

τὴν σαυτοῦ φρένα τέρψον· οἰζύον οὐδὲν ἀρέσκει

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

φεῦ φεῦ τᾶς Παφίας χόλον ἄζωο καὶ σύγε κώρα.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

χαιρέτω ἂ Παφία· μόνον Ἰλαος Ἄρτεμις εἴη.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μὴ λέγε, μὴ βάλλῃ σε καὶ ἐς λίνον ἄλλυτον<sup>2</sup> ἔνθης.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

βαλλέτω ὡς ἐθέλῃ· πάλιν Ἄρτεμις ἄμμιν ἀρήξει.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> this line is omitted in some mss γηράσκη E· mss -σκω  
<sup>2</sup> ἄλλυτον Mus (?). mss ἄκλιτον <sup>3</sup> ἐθέλῃ E mss ἐθέλης  
ἀρήξει E mss ἀρήγη

## THEOCRITUS XXVII, 8-18

DAPHNIS

Soft you, be not so sure, your youth passes you by  
like a dream.

ACROTIME

But the grape's in the raisin, and dry rose-leaves  
may live

DAPHNIS (*kissing her cheek*)

Shall *this* be suffered to grow old, that is my milk  
and honey? Pray you come hither under those wild-  
olives, I would fain tell you a tale

ACROTIME

Nay, I thank you, you beguiled me before with  
your pretty tales

DAPHNIS

Then pray you come hither under those elms and  
let me play you my pipe

ACROTIME

Nay; that way you may pleasure yourself, scant  
joy comes of a sorry thing

DAPHNIS

Alackaday! you likewise, honey, must e'en fear  
the wrath of Dame Paphian

ACROTIME

Dame Paphian may go hang for me; my prayers  
are to Artemis

DAPHNIS

Hist! or she'll have at thee, and then thou'lt be  
in the trap

ACROTIME

Let her have at me; Artemis will help me out.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

οὐ φεύγεις τὸν Ἑρωτα, τὸν οὐ φύγε παρθένος ἄλλη.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

φεύγω ναὶ τὸν Πᾶνα· σὺ δὲ ζυγὸν αἰὲν αἰείραις <sup>1</sup>  
μῆπιβάλης τὴν χεῖρα· καὶ εἰσέτι χεῖλος ἀμύξω.<sup>2</sup>

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

δειμαίνω, μὴ δὴ σε κακωτέρῳ ἀνέρι δώσω

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

πολλοὶ μ' ἐμνώοντο, νόφ' δ' ἐμῷ οὔτις ἔαδε.<sup>3</sup>

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

εἷς καὶ ἐγὼ πολλῶν μνηστῆρ τεὸς ἐνθάδ' ἰκάνω.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

καὶ τί φίλος ῥέξαιμι, γάμοι πλήθουσιν ἀνίας.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

οὐκ ὀδύνην, οὐκ ἄλγος ἔχει γάμος, ἀλλὰ χορείην

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ναὶ μάν φασι γυναικας ἐοὺς τρομέειν παρακοίτας.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μᾶλλον αἰε κρατέουσι· τί καὶ <sup>4</sup> τρομέουσι γυναῖκες;

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ὠδίνειν τρομέω· χαλεπὸν βέλος Εἰλειθυίης.

<sup>1</sup> αἰείραις Ahr mss αἰείρες <sup>2</sup> this line is before 18 in some mss, after it in others <sup>3</sup> ἔαδε (perf) Fritzsche mss αἰείδει, Mus ἔαδε <sup>4</sup> τί καὶ Wil mss τίνα

## THEOCRITUS XXVII, 19-29

DAPHNIS

No other maiden escapes Love, nor dost thou escape him

ACROTIME

'Fore Pan, that do I. as for you, I only pray you may ever bear his yoke (*he puts his arm about her and makes to kiss her again*) Unhand me, man; I'll bite thy lip yet.

DAPHNIS

But I fear if I let thee go a worser man will have thee

ACROTIME

Many the wooers have been after me, but never a one have I had to my mind

DAPHNIS

Well, here am I come to add one more to those many

ACROTIME

O friend, what is to do? marriage is all woe

DAPHNIS

Nay, a marriage is a thing neither of pain nor grief but rather of dancing

ACROTIME

Aye, but I'm told the wives do fear their bed-fellows

DAPHNIS

Nay; rather have they ever the upper hand; what should wives fear?

ACROTIME

'Tis the throes I fear; the stroke of Eleithyia is hard to bear.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἀλλὰ τεῖη βασιλεια μογοστόκος Ἄρτεμῖς ἐστιν

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ἀλλὰ τεκεῖν τρομέω, μὴ καὶ χροά καλὸν ὀλέσσω.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἦν δὲ τέκῃς φίλα τέκνα, νέον φάος ὄψεται υἱας.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

καὶ τί μοι ἔδνον ἄγεις γάμου ἄξιον, ἦν ἐπινεύσω;

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

πᾶσαν τὰν ἀγέλαν, πάντ' ἄλσεα καὶ νομὸν ἔξεις.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ὄμνυε μὴ μετὰ λέκτρα λιπὼν ἀέκουσαν ἀπενθεῖν.<sup>1</sup>

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

οὐ μαυτὸν τὸν Πᾶνα, καὶ ἦν ἐθέλῃς με διῶξαι.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

τεύχεις μοι θαλάμους, τεύχεις καὶ δῶμα καὶ αὐλῖς;

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

τεύχω σοι θαλάμους· τὰ δὲ πῶεα καλὰ νομεύω.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

πατρὶ δὲ γηραλέῳ τίνα μάν,<sup>2</sup> τίνα μῦθον ἐνέψω;

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

αἰνήσει σέο λέκτρον, ἐπὶ ἦν ἐμὸν οὔνομ' ἀκούσῃ.

<sup>1</sup> ἀπενθεῖν Reiske mss ἀπένθης    <sup>2</sup> μάν Ahl mss κεν

THEOCRITUS XXVII. 30-40

DAPHNIS

But thou hast Artemis to thy queen, and she  
lightens the labour

ACROTIME

Ah ' but I fear lest the childbirth lose me my  
pretty face

DAPHNIS

But if thou bear sweet children, thou'lt see a new  
light in thy sons

ACROTIME

And if I say thee yea, what gift bring'st thou with  
thee worthy the marriage ?

DAPHNIS

Thou shalt have all my herd and all the planting  
and pasture I possess

ACROTIME

Swear thou'lt never thereafter leave me all  
forlorn

DAPHNIS

Before great Pan I swear it, even if thou choose to  
send me packing

ACROTIME

Buldest me a bowe and a house and a farmstead ?

DAPHNIS

Yea, I build thee a house, and the flocks I feed  
are fine flocks

ACROTIME

But then my gray-headed father, O what can I say  
to him ?

DAPHNIS

He'll think well o' thy wedlock when he hears  
my name

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

AKROTIMH

οὔνομα σὸν λέγε τῆνο· καὶ οὔνομα πολλάκι τέρπει.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

Δάφνις ἐγώ, Λυκίδας δε πατήρ, μήτηρ δὲ Νομαίη.

AKROTIMH

ἐξ εὐηγενέων· ἀλλ' οὐ σέθεν εἰμὶ χερείων.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

οἶδ', Ἀκροτίμη ἐσσί,<sup>1</sup> πατήρ δέ τοί ἐστι Μενάλκας.

AKROTIMH

δεῖξον ἐμοὶ τεδὸν ἄλσος, ὅπη σέθεν ἴσταται αὐλά.<sup>2</sup>

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

δεῦρ' ἴδε, πῶς ἀνθεῦσιν ἐμαὶ ῥαδιναὶ κυπάρισσοι.

AKROTIMH

αἶγες ἐμαὶ βόσκεισθε· τὰ βουκόλῳ ἔργα νοήσω

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ταῦροι καλὰ νέμεσθ', ἵνα παρθένῳ ἄλσεα δείξω.

AKROTIMH

τί ῥέξεις σατυρίσκε, τί δ' ἔνδοθεν ἄψαο μαζῶν;

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

μᾶλα τεὰ πρᾶτιστα τάδε χνοάοντα διδάξω.

AKROTIMH

ναρκῶ ναὶ τὸν Πᾶνα. τεὴν πάλιν ἔξελε χεῖρα.

<sup>1</sup> οἶδ' Jacobs · mss οὐδ' Ἀκροτίμη ἐσσί E mss ἄκρα  
τιμήεσσι, Mus ἄ τιμήεσσα <sup>2</sup> τεδὸν Wil mss ἔθον, Mus  
ἔθεν αὐλά E mss α or αια, Mus ἀλλις

## THEOCRITUS XXVII, 41-51

ACROTIME

Then tell me that name o' thine, there's often joy  
in a name.

DAPHNIS

'Tis Daphnis, mine, and my father's Lycidas and  
my mother's Nomaee.

ACROTIME

Thou com'st of good stock; and yet methinks I  
am as good as thou

DAPHNIS

Aye, I know it, thou art Acrotimè and thy father  
Menalcas

ACROTIME

Come, show me thy planting, show me where thy  
farmstead is.

DAPHNIS

Lo ' this way it is, look how tall and slender my  
cypress-trees spring '

ACROTIME

Graze on, my goats; I go to see the neatherd's  
labours.

DAPHNIS

Feed you well, my bulls; I would fain show the  
maid my planting

ACROTIME

What art thou at, satyr-boy? why hast put thy  
hand in my bosom?

DAPHNIS

I am fain to give thy ripe pippins their first  
lesson

ACROTIME

'Fore Pan, I shall swoon; take back thy hand.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

θάρσει κῶρα φίλα. τί μοι ἔτρεμες; ὥς μάλα δειλά.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

βάλλεις εἰς ἀμάραν με καὶ εἴματα καλὰ μαιίνεις.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἀλλ' ὑπὸ σοὺς πέπλους ἀπαλὸν νύκτος ἡνίδε βάλλω.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

φεῦ φεῦ καὶ τὰν μίτρην ἀπέσχισας.<sup>1</sup> ἐς τί δ'  
ἔλυσας;

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

τῇ Παφίᾳ πράτιστον ἐγὼ τόδε δῶρον ὀπάσσω.<sup>2</sup>

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

μίμνε τάλαν· τάχα τίς τοι ἐπέρχεται ἥχον ἀκούω.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἀλλήλαις λαλέουσι τεδὸν γάμον αἱ κυπάρισσοι.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

ἀμπεχόνην ποιήσας ἐμὴν ῥάκος.<sup>3</sup> εἰμὶ δὲ γυμνά.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἄλλην ἀμπεχόνην τῆς σῆς τοι μείζονα δώσω.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

φῆς μοι πάντα δόμεν· τάχα δ' ὕστερον οὐδ' ἄλλα  
δοίης.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

αἶθ' αὐτὰν δυνάμαν καὶ τὰν ψυχὰν ἐπιβάλλειν.

<sup>1</sup> μίτρην Winsem: mss μικρὰν ἀπέσχισας Scaliger: mss ἀπέστιχες <sup>2</sup> ὀπάσσω E, cf l 64, he cannot be said to give it on the spot <sup>3</sup> ἀμπεχόνην Ahr mss τὰμπεχόνην,

## THEOCRITUS XXVII, 52-62

DAPHNIS

Never thou mind, sweet; what hadst thou to fear,  
little coward?

ACROTIME

Thou thrustest me into the water-conduit and  
soilest my pretty clothes

DAPHNIS

Nay; look ye there! I cast my soft sheepskin  
under thy cloak.

ACROTIME

Out, alack! thou hast torn off my gidle, too.  
Why didst loose that?

DAPHNIS

This shall be my firstlings to our Lady of Paphos.

ACROTIME

Hold, ah hold! sure somebody's e'en coming.  
There's a noise

DAPHNIS

Aye, the cypress-trees talking together of thy  
bridal

ACROTIME

Thou hast torn my mantle and left me in my  
shift

DAPHNIS

I'll give thee another mantle, and an ampler.

ACROTIME

You say you'll give me anything I may ask, who  
soon mayhap will deny me salt

DAPHNIS

Would I could give thee my very soul to boot!

Mus. τὰμπέχονον ἐμὴν Hermann mss ἐμὸν βάκος Mus (?):  
mss βάγος

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

"Αρτεμι, μὴ νεμέσα σοῖς ῥήμασιν<sup>1</sup> οὐκέτι πιστῇ.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ῥέξω<sup>2</sup> πόρτιν Ἐρωτι καὶ αὐτᾷ βῶν Ἀφροδίτα.

ΑΚΡΟΤΙΜΗ

παρθένος ἔνθα βέβηκα, γυνὴ δ' εἰς οἶκον ἀφέρπω.

ΔΑΦΝΙΣ

ἀλλὰ γυνὴ μήτηρ τεκέων τροφός, οὐκέτι κώρα.

ὥς οἱ μὲν χλοεροῖσιν λαινόμενοι μελέεσσιν  
 ἀλλήλοισι ψιθύριζον. ἀνιστατο φώριος εὐνῇ.  
 χῆ μὲν ἀνεγρομένη πάλιν ἔστιχε<sup>3</sup> μᾶλα νομεύειν  
 ὄμμασιν αἰδομένοις,<sup>4</sup> κραδίη δέ οἱ ἔνδον ἰάνθη,  
 ὃς δ' ἐπὶ ταυρείας ἀγέλας κεχαρημένος εὐνᾷς.

ΚΡΙΤΗΣ

δέχνησο τὰν σύριγγα τεὰν<sup>5</sup> πύλιν, ὄλβιε ποίμαν  
 τᾷ καὶ ποιμναγῶν<sup>6</sup> ἑτέραν σκεψώμεθα μολπάν.

<sup>1</sup> σοῖς ῥήμασιν Ahi mss σοι ἔρημας <sup>2</sup> ῥέξω Mus mss  
 ῥέξω <sup>3</sup> πάλιν ἔστιχε Wil mss γε διέστ <sup>4</sup> αἰδομένοις  
 Herm. mss -οι, Mus -η <sup>5</sup> Mus omits τεὰν Ahi mss  
 τεῶν <sup>6</sup> ποιμναγῶν E, cf κυναγὸς mss ποιμαιγνίων

## THEOCRITUS XXVII, 63-73

ACROTIME

O Artemis, be not wroth with a transgressor of thy word.

DAPHNIS

Love shall have a heifer of me, and great Aphrodite a cow.

ACROTIME

Lo, I came hither a maid and I go home a woman

DAPHNIS

Aye, a mother and a nursing-mother, maiden no more

Thus they prattled in the joy of their fresh young limbs The secret bridal over, she rose and went her ways for to feed her sheep, her look shamefast but her heart glad within her, while as for him, he betook himself to his herds of bulls rejoicing in his wedlock

THE UMPIRE

Here, take the pipe, thou happy shepherd, 'tis thine once more, and so let's hear and consider another of the tunes of the leaders o' sheep





## XXVIII —THE DISTAFF

THE DISTAFF *is an occasional poem in the Aeolic dialect and the Asclepiad metre, and was almost certainly modelled upon Sappho or Alcaeus. It was written by Theocritus before or during a voyage from Syracuse to Miletus, and presented with the gift of a carved ivory distaff to the wife of his friend the poet-physician Nicias*

# XXVIII — ΗΛΑΚΑΤΗ

Γλαύκας ὦ φιλέριθ' ἀλακάτα δῶρον Ἀθανάας  
 γύναιξιν, νόος οἰκωφελίας αἷσιν ἐπάβολος,  
 θάρσεισ' ἄμμιν ὑμάρτη πόλιν ἐς Νείλεος ἀγλάαν,  
 ὅππυι Κύπριδος ἱρον καλάμῳ χλῶρον ὑπ' ἀπάλῃ.  
 τυῖδε γὰρ πλόον εὐάνεμον αἰτήμεθα παρ Δίος,  
 ὅππως ξέννον ἔμον τέρψομ' ἴδων κἀντιφιλήσομαι<sup>1</sup>  
 Νικίαν, Χαρίτων ἱμεροφώνων ἱερον φύτον,  
 καὶ σὲ τὰν ἐλέφαντος πολυμόχθω γεγεννημέναν  
 δῶρον Νικιάας εἰς ἀλόχῳ<sup>2</sup> χέρρας ὁπάσσομεν,  
 σὺν τᾷ πόλλα μὲν ἔρρ'<sup>3</sup> ἐκτελέσεις ἀνδρείοις  
 πέπλοις,  
 πόλλα δ' οἶα γύναικες φορέοισ' ὑδάτινα βράκη.  
 δις γὰρ μάτερες ἄρνων μαλάκοις ἐν βοτάνᾳ πόκοις  
 πέξαιντ' αὐτοέτει, Θευγενίδος γ' ἔννεκ' εὐσφύρῳ  
 οὕτως ἀνυσίεργος, φιλέει δ' ὅσσα σαόφρονες.  
 οὐ γὰρ εἰς ἀκίρας οὐδ' ἐς ἀέργω κεν ἐβολλόμαν  
 ὅπασσαί σε δόμοις ἀμμετέρας ἔσσαν ἀπὺ χθόνος.

The Aeolic forms and accents are in many cases the restoration of Ahrens, but a few undoubted traces of them remain in the mss <sup>1</sup> κἀντιφιλήσομαι Musurus mss -ήσω <sup>2</sup> ἀλόχῳ mss also δλόχῳ perhaps rightly <sup>3</sup> ἔρρ(α) = ξρια Buecheler mss ἐργ'

## XXVIII —THE DISTAFF

DISTAFF, friend of them that weave and spin, gift of the Grey-eyed Huswife above to all good huswives here below, come away, come away to Neleus' town so bright and fair, where the Cyprian's precinct lies fresh and green among the tall soft reeds, for 'tis thither bound I ask of Zeus fair passage, with intent both to glad my eyes with the sight and my heart with the love of a dear good child of the Ladies o' the Voice of Delight, by name Nicias, and to give you, my pretty offspring of laboured ivory, into the hands of the goodwife of the same, to be her helpmate in the making of much wool into clothes, whether the coats of men or those translucent robes the women do wear. For the fleecy mothers o' flocks might well get them shorn afield twice in one year for aught Mistress Pretty-toes would care, so busy a little body is she and enamoured of all that delighteth the discreet. Trust me, I would never have given a fellow-countryman into the house of a do-nought or a sloven. And fellow-countryman it is, seeing you

Miletus was founded by Neleus, and a temple of Aphrodite-in-the-Marsh seems to have been one of its outstanding features

## THEOCRITUS XXVIII, 17-25

hail from the town old Archias founded out of  
Ephyria, the sap and savour of the Isle o' Three  
Capes, the birthplace of good men and true

But now you are to lodge at a wiseacre's deep-  
learned in the lore of such spells as defend us of the  
flesh from woeful ills, now you are to dwell among  
an Ionian people in Miletus the delectable, to the  
end that Theugenis' neighbours may be jealous of her  
and her distaff, and so you may serve always to mind  
her of her friend the lover of song For at the sight  
of you it shall be said, "Great love goes here with a  
little gift, and all is precious that comes of a friend."

Ephyra is an old name for Corinth, the mother city of  
Syracuse



## XXIX-XXX.—THE AEOLIC LOVE-POEMS

THESE two poems are inspired, like XII, by a passionate friendship. The first line of No. 1 contains a quotation from Alcaeus, and in both poems metre and dialect point to him or Sappho as the model. The metre in the one case is the fourteen-syllable Sapphic Pentameter, and in the other the Greater Asclepiad. As in XII, there is much here that is reminiscent to us of some of the Elizabethan love-poetry.

# XXIX.—ΠΑΙΔΙΚΟΝ ΑΙΟΛΙΚΟΝ α'

'Οἶνος' ὦ φίλε παῖ λέγεται 'καὶ ἀλάθεια'  
 κᾶμμε<sup>1</sup> χρή μεθύοντας ἀλαθείας ἔμμεναι.  
 κῆγῶ μὲν ἐρέω τὰ φρένων κέατ'<sup>2</sup> ἐν μύχῳ·  
 οὐκ ὄλας σε φίλην<sup>3</sup> με θέλειςθ' ἀπὺ καρδίας·  
 γινώσκω· τὸ γὰρ αἴμις τῆς ζοίας ἔχω  
 ζὰ τὰν σὰν ιδέαυ, τὸ δὲ λοιπὸν ἀπώλετο,  
 κῶτα μὲν σὺ θέλεις, μακάρεσσιν ἴσαν ἄγω  
 ἀμέραν· ὅτα δ' οὐκὶ θέλεις τύ, μάλ' ἐν σκοτῶ.  
 πῶς ταῦτ' ἄρμενα, τὸν φιλέοντ' ὀνίαις δίδων;  
 ἀλλ' εἴ μοί τι πίθοιο νέος προγενεστέρῳ,  
 τῷ κε λώιον αὐτὸς ἔχων ἔμ' ἐπαινέσαις.  
 ποίησον καλιὰν μίαν ἐνν<sup>4</sup> ἐνὶ δενδρίῳ,  
 ὅππυι<sup>5</sup> μηδὲν ἀπίξεται ἄγριον ὄρπετον.  
 νῦν δὲ τῶδε μὲν ἅματος ἄλλον ἔχεις κλάδον,  
 ἄλλον δ' αὖριον, ἐξ ἑτέρῳ δ' ἕτερον μάτης.  
 καὶ κέν σευ τὸ κάλον τις ἴδων ρέθους αἰνέσαι,  
 τῷ δ' εὐθυς πλέον ἢ τριέτης ἐγένευ φίλος,  
 τὸν πρῶτον δὲ φίλεντα<sup>6</sup> τρίταιον ἐθήκαο  
 ἀνδρῶν, τῶν ὑπὲρ ἀνορέαν<sup>7</sup> δοκέεις πνέην·  
 φίλη δ', ἃς κε ζόης, τὸν ὕμοιον<sup>8</sup> ἔχην αἰ.  
 αἱ γὰρ ὦδε πόης, ἀγαθὸς μὲν ἀκούσσαι  
 ἐξ ἄστων· ὁ δέ τοι κ' Ἔρος οὐ χαλέπως ἔχοι,  
 ὃς ἀνδρῶν φρένας εὐμαρέως ὑποδάμναται,  
 κῆμμε μάλθακον ἐξ ἐπόησε σιδαρίῳ.

<sup>1</sup> κᾶμμε Brunck: mss κᾶμμε <sup>2</sup> thus E. mss order τὰ  
 φρένων ἐρέω κέατ' <sup>3</sup> σε φίλην E: mss φιλείν <sup>4</sup> ἐν Wil.  
 mss εἰν <sup>5</sup> ὅππυι Wil: mss ὅπη or ὅπη <sup>6</sup> φίλεντα E.



## XXIX.—THE FIRST LOVE-POEM

*In sack, out sooth* goes the saying, lad, and now that you and I are a-drinking we must fain be men of truth. I for one will tell what doth lie in my mind's hold, and it is that you will not that I should love you with my whole heart I know it; for such is the power of your beauty that there's but half a living left me to love you withal, seeing my day is spent like as a God's or in very darkness according as you do choose. What righteousness is here, to deliver one that loves you over unto woe? Trust me, if you 'ld only hearken to your elder 'twould be profit unto you and thanks unto me. Listen then: one tree should hold one nest, and that where no noisome beast may come at it; but you, you do possess one bough to-day and another to-morrow, seeking ever from this unto that; and if one but see and praise your fair face, straightway are you more than a three years' friend to him, and as for him that first loved you, in three days, lad, you reckon him of those men whose very manhood you seem to disdain. Choose rather to be friends with the same body so long as you shall live; for if so you do, you will have both honour of the world and kindness of that Love who doth so easily vanquish the mind of man and hath melted in me a heart of very iron

mss φιλεῦντα  
cf. *Meg* 33

<sup>7</sup> mss ὑπεραγορέων

<sup>8</sup> τὸν ὅμοιον = the same,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἀλλὰ πέρρ<sup>1</sup> ἀπάλω στύματός σε πεδέρχομαι  
 ὁμνάσθην, ὅτι πέρρυσιν ἦσθα νεώτερος,  
 κῶτι γηραλέοι πέλομεν πρὶν ἀπόπτυσαι  
 καὶ ῥῦσοι, νεότατα δ' ἔχην παλινάγρετον  
 οὐκ ἔστι· πτέρυγας γὰρ ἐπομμαδίαις φόρη,  
 κᾶμμες βαρδύτεροι τὰ ποτήμενα συλλάβην.  
 ταῦτα χρή σε νόεντα πέλην προτιμώτερον<sup>2</sup>,  
 καὶ μοι τῶραμένῳ συνέραν ἀδόλως σέθεν,  
 ὅππως, ἄνικα τὰν γένυν ἀνδρείαν ἔχης,  
 ἀλλάλοισι πελώμεθ' Ἀχιλλεῖοι φίλοι.  
 αἱ δὲ ταῦτα φέρην ἀνέμοισιν ἐπιτρέπης,  
 ἐν θύμῳ δὲ λέγης ' τί με δαιμόνι' ἐννόχλης;  
 νῦν μὲν κῆπλ' τὰ χρύσεια μᾶλ' ἔνεκεν σέθεν  
 βαίην καὶ φύλακον νεκύων πεδὰ Κέρβερον,  
 τότα δ' οὐδὲ κάλεντος<sup>3</sup> ἐπ' αὐλείαις θύραις  
 προμόλοισι κε παυσάμενος χαλέπω μόνῳ.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> πέρρ Wil · Ahr πέρ · mss περί    <sup>2</sup> σε νόεντα Buecheler ·  
 mss νοέοντα    mss προτιμώτερον and ποτιμώτερον = kinde E  
<sup>3</sup> κάλεντος E · mss καλεῦντος    <sup>4</sup> μόνῳ E = madness mss πόθῳ  
 and μούνη (?)

## THEOCRITUS XXIX, 25-40

O by those soft lips I beseech you remember that you were younger a year ago, and as we men wax old and wrinkled sooner than one may spit, so there's no re-taking of Youth once she be fled, seeing she hath wings to her shoulders, and for us 'tis ill catching winged beasts. Come then, think on these things and be the kinder for't, and give love for love where true loving is; and so when Time shall bring thee a beard we'll be Achilles and his friend. But if so be you cast me these words to the winds, and say, and say in your heart, "Peace, man; begone," then, for all I would go now for your sake and get the Golden Apples or fetch you the Watch-dog o' the Dead, I would not come forth, no, not if you should stand at my very door and call me, for the pain of my woodness would be overpast.

"Achilles and his friend" Patroclus "Golden Apples" of the Hesperides; the fetching of these and of Cerberus were two of the Labours of Heracles. "woodness": madness.

### XXX.—ΠΑΙΔΙΚΟΝ ΑΙΟΛΙΚΟΝ β'

ὦναι τῷ χαλέπῳ καὶ νομόρῳ τῷδε νοσήματος·  
τετόρταιος ἔχει παῖδος ἔρος μῆνά με<sup>1</sup> δεύτερον,  
κάλῳ μὲν μετρίως, ἀλλ' ὅποσον τῷ πόδι περρέχει  
τὰς γᾶς, τοῦτο χάρις, ταῖς δὲ παραύφαις γλύκυ  
μειδίᾳ<sup>2</sup>.

καὶ νῦν μὲν τὸ κάκον ταῖς μὲν ἔχει, ταῖσι δὲ μ' οὐκ  
ἔχει<sup>3</sup>.

τάχα δ' οὐδ' ὅσον ὑπνω 'πιτύχην ἔσσειτ' ἐρωία.  
ἔχθες γὰρ παρίων ἔδρακε λέπτ' ἄμμε δι' ὀφρύγων<sup>4</sup>  
αἰδέσθεις προτίδην<sup>5</sup> ἄντιος, ἡρεύθετο δὲ χροά,  
ἔμεθεν δὲ πλέον τὰς κραδίας ὦρος ἐδράξατο·  
εἰς οἶκον δ' ἀπέβαν ἔλκος ἔχων καὶ τὸ <κέαρ  
δάκων><sup>6</sup>

πόλλα δ' εἰσκαλέσαις θῦμον ἐμαύτῳ διελεξάμαν·<sup>7</sup>  
' τί δὴ ταῦτ' ἐπόης; ἄλοσύνας τί ἔσχατον ἔσσειται;  
λευκάς οὐκί φίσαισθ' ὅττι φόρης ἐν κροτάφοις  
τρίας<sup>8</sup>,

ὦρά τοι φρονέην, μὴ ὠκί<sup>9</sup> νέος τὰν ιδέαν πέλη  
πάντ' ἔρδη ὅσσα περ οἱ τῶν ἐτέων ἄρτια γεύμενοι.<sup>10</sup>  
καὶ μὰν ἄλλα σε λάθει· τὸ δ' ἄρ' ἦν λῶιον, ἔμμεναι

<sup>1</sup> μῆνά με Bergk ms μῆνα 4, 5 transposed by Fritzsche

<sup>2</sup> παραύφαις (so E) γλύκυ μειδίᾳ Bgk. ms παραύφαις γλ μειδί-  
αμα<sup>1</sup> thus Bgk ms ταῖς μὲν ἔχει ταῖς δ' οὐ<sup>4</sup> λέπτ'  
ἔμμε Schwabe δι' ὀφρύγων Bgk-Herwerden: ms λέπτα  
μειλιφρύγων<sup>5</sup> προτίδην E. ms ποτίδην<sup>6</sup> κέαρ δάκων sup-

### XXX.—THE SECOND LOVE-POEM

AYE me, the pain and the grief of it ! I have been sick of Love's quartan now a month and more. He's not so fair, I own, but all the ground his pretty foot covers is grace, and the smile of his face is very sweetness 'Tis true the ague takes me now but day on day off, but soon there'll be no respite, no not for a wink of sleep. When we met yesterday he gave me a sidelong glance, afeared to look me in the face, and blushed crimson ; at that, Love gripped my reins still the more, till I gat me wounded and heartsore home, there to arraign my soul at bar and hold with myself this parlance : " What wast after, doing so ? whither away this fond folly ? know'st thou not there's three gray hairs on thy brow ? Be wise in time, or one that is no youth in's looks shall play new-taster o' the years. Other toys thou forgettest ; 'twere better, sure, at thy time o' life to know no

pled by Fritzsche <sup>7</sup> διελεξάμαν Bgk. ms διέλυξε <sup>8</sup> οὐκὶ  
*Ἰσσαισθ'* E. ms οὐκ ἐπίσθης θ' φόρης and τρίας Bgk. ms  
 φόροις and τρία <sup>9</sup> φρονέην Bgk. ms φρονέσιν μὴ ὠκὶ  
 νέος E. ms μὴ . . . νέος see *Class. Rev.* 1911 p 37  
<sup>10</sup> γεύμενοι Kreissler. ms γεγέμ.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ξέννον τῶν χαλέπων παῖδος <ἔρων ἢ τόον ἔντ'><sup>1</sup>  
ἔραν.

τῷ μὲν γὰρ βίος ἔρπει *ῥίσα* γόννοις ἐλάφω θόας  
τελάσσαι δ' ἀτέρᾳ ποντοπόρην *ᾗ* αὔριον ἀμέραν,<sup>2</sup>  
οὐδ' αὐτὸν γλυκέρας ἀνθεμον ἄβας πεδ' ὑμαλίκω  
μένει· τῷ δ' ὁ πόθος καὶ τὸν ἔσω μύελον ἐσθίει  
ὀμμιμνασκομένῳ, πόλλα δ' ὄρη νύκτος ἐνύπνια,  
παύσασθαι δ' ἐνιαυτὸς χαλέπας οὐκ ἴκονος  
δύας—.><sup>3</sup>

ταῦτα κατ' ἄτερα πόλλα προτὶ ἔμον<sup>4</sup> θῦμον ἐμεμ-  
ψάμαν·

ὃ δὲ τοῦτ' ἔφατ'· ὅττις δοκίμοι<sup>5</sup> τὸν δολομάχανον  
νικάσῃν Ἑρον, οὗτος δοκίμοι τοῖς ὑπὲρ ἀμμέων  
εὖρην βραιδίως ἄστερας, ὀππόσασακιν ἔννεα·  
καὶ νῦν, εἴτε θέλω, χρή με μάκρον σχόντα τὸν  
ἄμφενα

ἐλκην τὸν ζυγόν, εἴτ' οὐκὶ θέλω· ταῦτα γάρ, ὦγαθε,  
βόλλεται θεός ὃς καὶ Δίος ἐσφαλε μέγαν νόον  
καῦτας Κυπρογενήας· ἔμε μάν, φύλλον<sup>6</sup> ἐπάμερον  
σμίκρας δεύμενον αὔρας, ὀνέλων *ᾗ* κε φόρη φόρη.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ἔρων ἢ τόον ἔντ' supplied by E ἔρπει *ῥίσα* E ms  
ἔρπε ρωίσσα <sup>2</sup> τελάσσαι = τολμήσαι E from Hesych. ms  
δλάσει *ᾗ* αὔριον ἀμέραν = ταύτη τῶν ἡμερῶν ἢ αὔριόν ἐστι E:  
ms αὔριον ἀμ <sup>3</sup> χαλέπας Bgk ms χαλεπαί οὐκ ἴκονος  
δύας supplied by E ms οὐκὶ for aposiopesis cf *Il* 23.

# THEOCRITUS XXX, 17-32

more such loves as this For whom Life carries swift and easy as hoof doth hind, and might endure to cross and cross the sea every day's morrow that is, can he and the flower o' sweet Youth abide ever of one date? How much less he that hath yearful remembrance gnawing at his heart's core, and dreams often o' nights and taketh whole years to cure his lovesickness!"

Such lesson and more read I unto my soul, and thus she answered me again: "Whoso thinketh to outvie yon cozening Love, as soon might he think to tell how-many-times-nine stars be i' th' skies above us; and so I too, willy-nilly, must fain stretch my neck beneath the yoke and pull, seeing such, my lord, is the will of a God that hath betrayed ev'n the mickle mind of Zeus, and beguiled ev'n the Cyprus-born, and catcheth up and carrieth whither-soever he list (as well he may) a poor mortal leaf like me that needs but a puff of air to lift it."

319 ff    <sup>4</sup> *πρωτὶ* E. ms *ποτ'*    <sup>5</sup> *δοκίμοι* Bgk. ms *δοκεῖ μοι*  
<sup>6</sup> *φύλλον* Fritzschē<sup>2</sup> ms *φίλον*    <sup>7</sup> *δεύμενον* Bgk ms *δευό-*  
*μενον* *ὀνέλων* Ahr ms *ὀ μέλλων* *ᾗ κε* Wil ms *αἴκα* *φόρη*  
*φόρη* E. ms *φορεῖ* see *Class Rev* 1911 p 65





## THE INSCRIPTIONS

THESE little poems are all, with the exception of IV, actual inscriptions, and would seem to have been collected from the works of art upon which they were inscribed. XII and XXIII are in all probability by other hands, and there is some doubt of the genuineness of XXIV, but the rest are not only ascribed to Theocritus in the best manuscripts, but are fully worthy of him.

## ΕΠΙΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ

### I

Τὰ ῥόδα τὰ δροσόεντα καὶ ἁ κατάπυκνος ἐκείνα  
ἔρπυλλος κείται ταῖς Ἑλικωνιάσι,  
ταὶ δὲ μελάμφυλλοι δάφναι τὴν Πύθιε Παιάν,  
Δελφὶς ἐπεὶ πέτρα τοῦτό τοι ἀγλάισε·  
βωμὸν δ' αἰμάξει κεραδὸς τράγος οὗτος ὁ μαλός,  
τερμίνθου τρώγων ἔσχατον ἀκρεμόνα.

### II

Δάφνις ὁ λευκόχρως, ὁ καλᾷ σύριγγι μελίσδων  
βουκολικοὺς ὕμνους, ἄνθετο Πανὶ τάδε,  
τοὺς τρητοὺς δόνακας, τὸ λαγωβόλον, ὃ ξὺν ἄκοντα,  
νεβρίδα, τὰν πήραν, ἧ ποκ' ἐμαλοφόρει.

### III

Εὐδεις φυλλοστρώτι πέδῳ Δάφνι σῶμα κεκμακὸς  
ἀμπαύων, στάλικες δ' ἀρτιπαγεῖς ἂν' ὄρη·  
ἀγρεύει δέ τυ Πᾶν καὶ ὁ τὸν κροκόεντα Πρίηπος  
κισσὸν ἐφ' ἡμερτῷ κρατὶ καθαπτόμενος,  
ἄντρου ἔσω στείχοντες ὁμόρροθοι. ἀλλὰ τὴν φεῦγε,  
φεῦγε μεθεὶς ὕπνου κῶμα καταρρύμενον.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> καταρρύμενον E cf. Sappho fr. 4 κῶμα κατάρρει, and  
χύμενος : mss καταγρόμενον or καταγόμενον

## THE INSCRIPTIONS

### I.—[AN INSCRIPTION FOR A PICTURE]

THOSE dewy roses and that thick bushy thyme are an offering to the Ladies of Helicon, and since 'tis the Delphian Rock hath made it honoured, the dark-leaved bay, Pythian Healer, is for thee; and yon horny white he-goat that crops the outmost sprays of the terebinth-tree is to be the blood-offering upon the altar.

.

### II.—[FOR A PICTURE]

THESE stopped reeds, this hurl-bat, this sharp javelin, this fawnskin, and this wallet he used to carry apples in, are an offering unto Pan from the fair-skinned Daphnis, who piped the music o' the country upon this pretty flute.

### III —[FOR A PICTURE]

You sleep there upon the leaf-strown earth, good Daphnis, and rest your weary frame, while your netting-stakes are left planted on the hillside. But Pan is after you, and Priapus also, with the yellow ivy about his jolly head; they are going side by side into your cave. Quick then, put off the lethargy that is shed of sleep, and up with you and away.

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## IV

Τήναν τὰν λαύραν, τόθι ται δρύες, αἰπόλε κάμψας  
 σύκινον εὐρήσεις ἀρτιγλυφές ξόανον  
 ἄσκελές<sup>1</sup> αὐτόφλοιον ἀνούατον, ἀλλὰ φάλητι  
 παιδογόνῳ δυνατὸν Κύπριδος ἔργα τελείν.  
 σακὸς δ' εὐίερος περιδέδρομεν, ἀέναον δὲ  
 ῥεῖθρον ἀπὸ σπιλάδων πάντοσε τηλεθάει  
 δάφναις καὶ μύρτοισι καὶ εὐώδει κυπαρίσσῳ,  
 ἔνθα πέριξ κέχυται βοτρυνόπαις ἔλικι  
 ἄμπελος, εἰαρινοὶ δὲ λιγυφθόγγοισιν αἰοδαῖς  
 κόσσυφοι ἀχεῦσιν ποικιλότραυλα μέλη,  
 ξουθαὶ δ' ἀδονίδες μινυρίσμασιν ἀνταχεῦσι<sup>2</sup>  
 μέλπουσαι στόμασιν τὰν μελίγαρυν ὅπα.  
 ἔξεο δὴ τηνεῖ καὶ τῷ χαρίεντι Πριήπῳ  
 εὐχέ' ἀποστέρξαι τοὺς Δάφνιδός με πόθους,  
 κεῦθ' ἔπιρρέξειν χίμαρον καλόν. ἦν δ' ἀνανεύση,  
 τοῦδε τυχὼν ἐθέλω τρισσὰ θύη τελέσαι·  
 ῥέξω γὰρ δαμάλαν, λάσιον τράγον, ἄρνα τὸν ἰσχω  
 σακίταν. αἰοὶ δ' εὐμενέως ὁ θεός.

## V

Λῆς ποτὶ τὰν Νυμφᾶν διδύμοις αὐλοῖσιν αἰεῖσαι  
 ἀδύ τί μοι; κῆγ' ὧ πακτίδ' ἀειράμενος  
 ἀρξεῦμαί τι κρέκειν, ὃ δὲ βουκόλος ἄμμιγα θελξει  
 Δάφνις, κηροδέτῳ πνεύματι μελπόμενος.

<sup>1</sup> ἄσκελές Jahn, i.e. a herm, cf. *A P* 10 8, 6. 20; mss  
 τρισκελές <sup>2</sup> ἀνταχεῦσι Scaliger. mss ἀντιαχεῦσι

## THE INSCRIPTIONS, IV-V

### IV.—[A LOVE-POEM IN THE FORM OF A WAYSIDE INSCRIPTION]

WHEN you turn the corner of yonder lane, sweet Goatherd, where the oak-trees are, you'll find a new-carved effigy of fig-wood, without legs or ears and the bark still upon it, but nevertheless an able servant of the Cyprian. There's a brave little sacrificial close runs round it, and a never-ceasing freshet that springs from the rocks there is greened all about with bays and myrtles and fragrant cypress, among which the mother o' grapes doth spread and twine, and in spring the blackbirds cry their hisping medleys of clear-toned song, and the babbling nightingales cry them back their warblings with the honey voice that sings from their tuneful throats Thither go, and sit you down and pray that pretty fellow to make cease my love of Daphnis, and I'll straightway offer him a fat young goat, but should he say me nay, then I'll make him three sacrifices if he'll win me his love, a heifer, a shaggy buck-goat, and a pet lamb I am rearing; and may the God hear and heed your prayer

### V.—[AN INSCRIPTION FOR A PICTURE]

'FORE the Nymphs I pray you play me some sweet thing upon the double flute, and I will take my viol and strike up likewise, and neatherd Daphnis shall join with us and make charming music with the

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἐγγὺς δὲ στάντες λασίας δρυὸς ἄντρον ὀπισθεν<sup>1</sup>  
 Πᾶνα τὸν αἰγιβάταν ὀρφανίσωμες ὕπνου.

### VI

Ἄ δέλαιε τὺ Θύρσι, τί τὸ πλέον, εἰ καταταξεῖς  
 δάκρυσι διγλήνους ὦπας ὀδυρόμενος;  
 οἷχεται ἅ χίμαρος, τὸ καλὸν τέκος, οἷχετ' ἐς Ἄιδαν·  
 τραχὺς γὰρ χαλαῖς ἀμφεπίαξε λύκος.  
 αἱ δὲ κύνες κλαγγεῦντι· τί τὸ πλέον, ἀνίκα τήνας  
 ὅστιον οὐδὲ τέφρα λείπεται οἰχομένης;

### VII

Νήπιον υἱὸν ἔλειπες, ἐν ἀλικίᾳ δὲ καὶ αὐτός,  
 Εὐρύμεδον, τύμβου τοῦδε θανῶν ἔτυχες.  
 σοὶ μὲν ἔδρα θείοισι μετ' ἀνδράσι· τὸν δὲ πολῖται  
 τιμασεῦντι, πατρὸς μνῶμενοι ὥς ἀγαθῷ.

### VIII

Ἦλθε καὶ ἐς Μίλητον ὁ τοῦ Παιήονος υἱός,  
 ἱητῆρι νόσων ἀνδρὶ συνοισόμενος  
 Νικίᾳ, ὅς μιν ἐπ' ἡμαρ αἰὲ θυέεσσιν ἱκνεῖται,  
 καὶ τόδ' ἀπ' εὐώδους γλύψατ' ἄγαλμα κέδρου,  
 Ἡετίωνι χάριν γλαφυρᾶς χερὸς ἄκρον ὑποστὰς  
 μισθόν· ὃ δ' εἰς ἔργον πᾶσαν ἀφήκε τέχνην.

<sup>1</sup> mss also λασιαύχενος ἐγγύθεν ἄντρον

## THE INSCRIPTIONS, V-VIII

notes of his wax-bound breath ; and so standing beside the shaggy oak behind the cave, let's rob yon goat-foot Pan of his slumber.

### VI—[FOR A PICTURE]

WELL-A-DAY, you poor Thyrsis ! what boots it if you cry your two eyes out of their sockets ? Your kid's gone, the pretty babe, dead and gone, all crushed in the talons of the great rough wolf True, the dogs are baying him, but to what end, when there's neither ash nor bone of the poor dead left ?

### VII—[FOR THE GRAVE OF A YOUNG FATHER]

HERE are you, Eurymedon, come in your prime to the grave, but you left a little son behind you, and though your dwelling henceforth is with the great o' the earth, you may trust your countrymen to honour the child for the sake of the father.

### VIII—[FOR NICIAS' NEW STATUE OF ASCLEPIUS]

THE Great Healer's son is come to Miletus now, to live with his fellow-craftsman Nicias, who both maketh sacrifice before him every day, and hath now made carve this statue of fragrant cedar-wood ; he promised Eetion a round price for the finished cunning of his hand, and Eetion hath put forth all his art to the making of the work

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### IX

Ξεῖνε, Συρακόσιός τοι ἀνὴρ τόδ' ἐφίεται Ὀρθων·  
 χειμερίας μεθύων μηδαμὰ νυκτὸς ἴοις.  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ τοιοῦτον ἔχον πότμον,<sup>1</sup> ἀντὶ δὲ πολλὰς  
 πατρίδος ὀθνεῖαν κείμεαι ἀφεστάμενος.<sup>2</sup>

### X

Τμῖν τοῦτο θεὰ κεχαρισμένον ἐννέα πάσαις  
 τῷγαλμα Ξενοκλῆς θῆκε τὸ μαρμάρινον,  
 μουσικός· οὐχ ἑτέρως τις ἐρεῖ. σοφίῃ δ' ἐπὶ τῇδε  
 αἶνον ἔχων Μουσέων οὐκ ἐπιλανθάνεται.

### XI

Εὐσθέneos τὸ μνήμα, φυσιγνώμων δς ἄριστος,<sup>3</sup>  
 δεινὸς ἀπ' ὀφθαλμοῦ καὶ τὸ νόημα μαθεῖν.  
 εὖ μιν ἔθαψαν ἑταῖροι ἐπὶ ξείνης ξένον ὄντα,  
 χωρὺμνοθέτης αὐτῷ δαιμονίως φίλος ἦν.  
 πάντων ὧν ἐπέοικεν ἔχει τεθνεὺς ὁ σοφιστής·  
 καίπερ ἄκιυς ἐὼν εἶχ' ἄρα κηδεμόνας.

<sup>1</sup> πότμον. mss also μόρον <sup>2</sup> mss also ὀθνεῖαν ἀφεστά-  
 μενος E, cf ἀποστησάσθων C.I.A. 1 32 18 mss ἐφέσσ and  
 ἐρέσσ <sup>3</sup> δς ἄριστος E, for the more usual attracted form  
 φυσιγνώμονος οὗ (or οἷου) ἀρίστου, cf xiv 59 mss ὁ σοφιστής  
 from below



## THE INSCRIPTIONS, IX-XI

### IX.—[FOR THE GRAVE OF A LANDED GENTLEMAN]

THIS, good Stranger, is the behest of Orthon of Syracuse. Go you never abroad drunk of a stormy night, for that was my fate to do, and so it is I lie here, and there's weighed me out a foreign country in exchange for much native-land.

### X.—[FOR AN ALTAR WITH A FRIEZE OF THE MUSES]

THIS carved work of marble, sweet Goddesses, is set up for the mine of you by the true musician—as all must name him—Xenocles, who having much credit of his art forgets not the Muses whose it is

### XI.—[FOR THE GRAVE OF A STROLLING PHYSIOGNOMIST]

HERE lies Strong-i'-th'-arm the great physiognomist, the man who could read the mind by the eye. And so, for all he is a stranger in a strange land, he has had friends to give him decent burial, and the dirge-writer has been kindness itself. The dead philosopher has all he could have wished; and thus, weakling wight though he be, there is after all somebody that cares for him.

“Weakling wight”: an Epic word to point the play upon the name.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### XII

Δημομέλης ὁ χορηγός, ὁ τὸν τρίποδ' ὦ Διόνυσε  
καὶ σὲ τὸν ἥδιστον θεῶν μακάρων ἀναθείς,  
μέτριος ἦν ἐν πᾶσι, χορῷ δ' ἐκτήσατο νίκην  
ἀνδρῶν, καὶ τὸ καλὸν καὶ τὸ προσήκον ὁρῶν.

### XIII

Ἡ Κύπρις οὐ πάνδημος. ἰλάσκειο τὴν θεὸν εἰπὼν  
οὐρανίην, ἀγνῆς ἄνθεμα Χρυσογόνῃς  
οἴκῳ ἐν Ἀμφικλέους,<sup>1</sup> ᾧ καὶ τέκνα καὶ βίον εἶχε  
ξυνόν. αἰεὶ δέ σφιν λώιον εἰς ἔτος ἦν  
ἐκ σέθεν ἀρχομένοις ὦ πότνια· κηδόμενοι γὰρ  
ἀθανάτων αὐτοὶ πλείον ἔχουσι βροτοί.

### XIV

Ἀστοῖς καὶ ξείνοισιν ἴσον νέμει ἥδε τράπεζα·  
θεὶς ἀνελοῦ ψήφου πρὸς λόγον ἐλκομένης.<sup>2</sup>  
ἄλλος τις πρόφασιν λεγέτω· τὰ δ' ὀθνεῖα Κάικος  
χρήματα καὶ νυκτὸς βουλομένοις ἀριθμεῖ.

<sup>1</sup> Ἀμφικλέους a Coan name      <sup>2</sup> ἐλκομένης, cf. *Hildeh*  
*Parr* 1 p. 65, Theophr. *Char* 24      mss also ἀρχομένης

## THE INSCRIPTIONS, XII-XIV

### XII —[FOR A PRIZE TRIPOD]

CHOIR-MASTER Demomeles, who set up this tripod and this effigy, Dionysus, of the sweetest God in heaven, had always been a decent fellow, and he won the victory with his men's-chorus because he knew beauty and seemliness when he saw them.

### XIII.—[FOR A COAN LADY'S NEW STATUE OF APHRODITE]

THIS is not the People's Cyprian, but pray when you propitiate this Goddess do so by the name of Heavenly; for this is the offering of a chaste woman, to wit of Chrysogonè, in the house of Amphicles, whose children and whose life she shared; so that beginning, Great Lady, with worship of thee, they ever increased their happiness with the years. For any that have a care for the Immortals are the better off for it themselves

### XIV.—[FOR THE TABLE OF A BARBARIAN MONEY-CHANGER]

THIS table makes no distinction of native and foreigner. You pay in and you receive out in strict accordance with the lie of the counters. If you want shifts and shuffles go elsewhere. You may be paid foreign money by Caicus in the dark

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### XV

Γνώσομαι, εἴ τι νέμεις ἀγαθοῖς πλέον, ἢ καὶ ὁ δειλὸς  
 ἐκ σέθεν ὡσαύτως ἴσον, ὁδοιπὸρ', ἔχει.  
 'χαιρέτω οὗτος ὁ τύμβος' ἑρεῖς 'ἐπεὶ Εὐρυμέ-  
 δοντος  
 κεῖται τῆς ἱερῆς κοῦφος ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς.'

### XVI

'Ἡ παῖς ὥχετ' ἄωρος ἐν ἐβδόμῳ ἥδ' ἐνιαυτῷ  
 εἰς Ἀἰδὴν πολλῆς ἡλικίης προτέρῃ,  
 δειλαίῃ, ποθέουσα τὸν εἰκοσάμηνον ἀδελφόν,  
 νήπιον ἀστόργου γευσάμενον θανάτου.  
 αἰαὶ ἐλαινὰ παθοῦσα Περιστέρῃ, ὡς ἐν ἐτοίμῳ  
 ἀνθρώποις δαίμων θῆκε τὰ λυγρότατα.

### XVII

Θᾶσαι τὸν ἀνδριάντα τοῦτον ὃ ξένε  
 σπουδᾷ, καὶ λέγ' ἐπ' ἄν εἰς οἶκον ἐνθης·  
 'Ἀνακρέοντος εἰκόν' εἶδον ἐν Τέφῳ  
 τῶν πρόσθ' εἴ τι περισσὸν ᾧδοποιῶ·  
 προσθεῖς δὲ χῶτι 'τοῖς νέοισιν ἄδετο,'  
 ἑρεῖς ἀτρεκέως ὅλον τὸν ἄνδρα.

### XVIII

"Α τε φωνὰ Δώριος χῶν' ἡρ' ὁ τὰν κωμωδίαν  
 εὐρών 'Επίχαρμος.  
 ὃ Βάκχε χάλκεόν νιν ἀντ' ἀλαθινοῦ  
 τὴν ὥδ' ἀνέθηκαν,  
 τοὶ Συρακόσσαις ἐνίδρυνται πελωριστᾶν πόλει,  
 οἳ ἀνδρὶ πολίτᾳ,

## THE INSCRIPTIONS, XV-XVIII

### XV.—[FOR THE GRAVE OF A BRAVE MAN]

I SHALL know, master Wayfarer, whether you prefer the valiant or esteem him even as the craven; for you will say: "Blest be this tomb for lying so light above the sacred head of Eurymedon"

### XVI.—[FOR THE GRAVE OF TWO LITTLE CHILDREN]

THIS little maid was taken untimely, seven years old and her life before her, and 'twas for grief, the poor child, that her brother of twenty months should have tasted, pretty babe, the unkindness of Death, O Peristerè, the pity of it! how near to man and ready hath God set what is woofullest!

### XVII.—[FOR A STATUE OF ANACREON AT TEOS]

Look well upon this statue, good Stranger, and when you return home say "I saw at Teos a likeness of Anacreon, the very greatest of the old makers of songs"; and you will describe him to the letter if you say also "He was the delight of the young."

### XVIII.—[FOR A STATUE OF EPICHARMUS IN THE THEATRE AT SYRACUSE]

THE speech is the Dorian, and the theme the inventor of comedy, Epicharmus. They that have their habitation in the most mighty city of Syracuse have set him up here, as became fellow-townsmen, unto thee, good Bacchus, in bronze in the stead of

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

σωροῦ τὸν εἶκε ῥημάτων μεμναμένοι<sup>1</sup>  
 τελεῖν ἐπὶ χεῖρα.  
 πολλὰ γὰρ ποττὰν ζόαν τοῖς παισὶν εἶπε χρήσιμα  
 μέγαλα χάρις αὐτῷ.

### XIX

Ὁ μουσοποιὸς ἐνθάδ' Ἰππῶναξ κεῖται.  
 κεῖ μὲν πονηρός, μὴ ποτέρχεν τῷ τύμβῳ·  
 εἰ δ' ἐσσι κρήγυός τε καὶ παρὰ χρηστῶν,  
 θαρσέων καθίζου, κῆν θέλῃς ἀπόβριξον.

### XX

Ὁ μικκὸς τόδ' ἔτευξε τῇ Θραίσσῃ  
 Μήδειος τὸ μνᾶμ' ἐπὶ τῇ ὁδῷ κηπέγραψε Κλείτας.  
 ἔχει τὰν χάριν ἀδὺν ἀντὶ τήνων,  
 ὃν τὸν κοῦρον ἔθρεψε· τί μάν; ὅτι χρησίμα καλεῖται.

### XXI

Ἀρχίλοχον καὶ στᾶθι καὶ εἴσιδε τὸν πάλαι ποιητὰν  
 τὸν τῶν ἰάμβων, οὗ τὸ μυρίον κλέος  
 διήλθε κῆπὸν νύκτα καὶ ποτ' ἄω.  
 ἦρά νιν αἱ Μοῖσαι καὶ ὁ Δάλιος ἠγάπευν Ἀπόλλων,  
 ὥς ἐμμελής τ' ἐγένετο κῆπιδέξιος  
 ἔπεά τε ποιεῖν πρὸς λύραν τ' αἰεῖδεν.

<sup>1</sup> thus E, εἶλε from ἴζω, cf Hom εἶσα mss σωρὸν (or σ.  
 γὰρ) εἶχε ῥημάτων (or κρημάτων) μεμναμένους

## THE INSCRIPTIONS, XVIII-XXI

the flesh ; and thus have remembered to pay him his wages for the great heap of words he hath builded For many are the things he hath told their children profitable unto life. He hath then hearty thanks.

### XIX.—[A NEW INSCRIPTION FOR THE GRAVE OF HIPPONAX]

HERE lies the bard Hipponax. If you are a rascal, go not nigh his tomb, but if you are a true man of good stock, sit you down and welcome, and if you choose to drop off to sleep you shall.

### XX —[AN INSCRIPTION FOR THE GRAVE OF A NURSE]

THIS memorial the little Medeius hath builded by the wayside to his Thracian nurse, and written her name upon it, "Cleita" She hath her reward for the child's good upbringing, and what is it? to be called "a good servant" evermore.

### XXI —[FOR A STATUE OF ARCHILOCHUS]

STAND and look at Archilochus, the old maker of iambic verse, whose infinite renown hath spread both to utmost east and furthest west Sure the Muses and Delian Apollo liked him well, such taste and skill had he to bring both to the framing of the words and to the setting of them to the lyre.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### XXII

Τὸν τῷ Ζανὸς ὃδ' ὕμιν υἷδν ὠνήρ  
 τὸν λεοντομάχαν, τὸν ὀξύχειρα,  
 πρᾶτος τῶν ἐπάνωθε μωσοποιῶν  
 Πείσανδρος συνέγραψεν οὐκ Καμίρῳ,  
 χῶσσοις ἐξεπόνασεν εἰπ' ἀέθλους.  
 τοῦτον δ' αὐτὸν ὁ δᾶμος, ὡς σάφ' εἰδῆς,  
 ἔστασ' ἐνθάδε χάλκεον ποήσας  
 πολλοῖς μῆσιν ὅπισθε κήνιαιτοῖς.

### XXIII

Αὐδήσει τὸ γράμμα, τι σᾶμά τε καὶ τίς ὑπ' αὐτῷ·  
 Γλαύκης εἰμὶ τάφος τῆς ὀνομαζομένης.

### XXIV

Ἀρχαῖα τῷ πόλλωνι τὰ ναθήματα  
 ὑπήρχεν· ἡ βᾶσις δὲ τοῦ μὲν εἴκοσι,  
 τοῦ<sup>1</sup> δ' ἑπτὰ, τοῦ δὲ πέντε, τοῦ δὲ δώδεκα,  
 τοῦ δὲ διηκοσίοισι νεωτέρῃ ἢ δ' ἐνιαυτοῖς  
 τοσσόσδε γὰρ τὴν<sup>2</sup> ἐξέβη μετρούμενος.

<sup>1</sup> here and below τοῦ Wil mss τοῖς    <sup>2</sup> τὴν E, supply ἀριθμὸς mss νιν



## THE INSCRIPTIONS, XXII-XXIV

### XXII.—[FOR A STATUE OF PEISANDER AT CAMIRUS]

THIS is Peisander of Camirus, the bard of old time who first wrote you of the lion-fighting quick-o'-th'-hand son of Zeus and told of all the labours he wrought. That you may know this for certain, the people have made his likeness in bronze and set it here after many months and many years.

### XXIII.—[FOR THE GRAVE OF ONE GLAUCÈ]

THE writing will say what the tomb is and who lies beneath it: "I am the grave of one that was called Glaucè"

### XXIV.—[FOR A NEW BASE TO SOME OLD OFFERINGS]

THESE offerings Apollo had possessed before; but the base you see below them is younger, than this by twenty years and that by seven, this by five and that by twelve, and this again by two hundred. For when you reckon them that is what it comes to.

## ΘΕΟΚΡΙΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΠΑΣΜΑΤΑ

### I

Eustath. ad *Iliad.* 5. 905, p. 620, 29 Ἀδελφὴ δὲ  
ἐστὶν Ἀρεως ἢ Ἡβη, ὡς καὶ Θεόκριτος μυθολογεῖ.

### II

*Etym. Magn.*, p. 290, 53 δυσὶν ἀντιφέρεσθαι,  
ὡς παρὰ Θεοκρίτῳ.

### III

Athen. 7, 284 A Θεόκριτος δ' ὁ Συρακόσιος ἐν  
τῇ ἐπιγραφομένῃ Βερενίκῃ τὸν λευκὸν ἐπονομα-  
ζόμενον ἰχθὺν ἱερὸν καλεῖ διὰ τούτων·

. . . καὶ τις ἀνὴρ αἰτεῖται ἐπαγροσύνην τε καὶ  
ὄλβον,

ἐξ ἁλὸς ὧ ζωή, τὰ δὲ δίκτυα κείνῳ ἄροτρα,  
σφάζων ἀκρόνυχος ταύτῃ θεῷ ἱερὸν ἰχθύν,  
ὃν λεῦκον καλέουσιν, ὃ γάρ θ' ἱερώτατος ἄλλων,  
καὶ κε λίνα στήσαιο καὶ ἐξερύσαιτο θαλάσσης  
ἔμπλεα . . .

## THE FRAGMENTS

### I

*Three fragments of Theocritus have been preserved in quotations. Eustathius commenting upon Iliad 5. 905 says :—*

Hebe is the sister of Ares, as Theocritus tells us.

### II

*In the Etymologicum Magnum we read :—*

To fight against two, as in Theocritus.

### III

*The third passage is quoted by Athenaeus (7 284A) from a poem in honour of Berenice, the queen either of Ptolemy I or of Ptolemy III; it is also referred to by Eustathius upon Iliad 16 407 (1067. 43) :—*

.. And if a man whose living is of the deep, a man whose ploughshares are his nets, prayeth for luck and lucre with an evening sacrifice unto this Goddess of one of the noble fishes which being noblest of all they call Leucus, then when he shall set his trammels he shall draw them from out the sea full to the brim . . .



II

THE POEMS AND FRAGMENTS  
OF BION



## I.—THE LAMENT FOR ADONIS

LIKE all the so-called songs in this book, this poem is lyric only in spirit. It is not one of the actual songs sung at the Adonis-festival, but, like the song in *Theocritus XV*, a conventional book-representation of them written for recitation. The suggestion here and there of a refrain is intended primarily to aid the illusion, but also serves the purpose sometimes of paragraphing the poem. The poem belongs to the second part of the festival, it is the dirge proper. As in *XV* the wedding-song refers to the coming dirge, so here the dirge refers to the past wedding-song. The Lament for Adonis is generally believed to be the work of Bion.

## ΒΙΩΝΟΣ

### Ι.—ΑΔΩΝΙΔΟΣ ΕΠΙΤΑΦΙΟΣ

Αιάζω τὸν Ἀδωνιν· ἀπώλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις·  
ὥλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις· ἐπαιάζουσιν Ἑρωτες.

μηκέτι πορφυρέοις ἐνὶ φάρεσι Κύπρι κάθευδε·  
ἔγρεο δειλαία, κυανόστολα<sup>1</sup> καὶ πλατάγησον  
στήθεα καὶ λέγε πᾶσιν· ἀπώλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις·  
αἰάζω τὸν Ἀδωνιν· ἐπαιάζουσιν Ἑρωτες.

κεῖται καλὸς Ἀδωνις ἐν ὥρεσι μηρὸν ὀδόντι,  
λευκῷ λευκὸν ὀδόντι τυπεῖς, καὶ Κύπριν ἀνιῇ  
λεπτὸν ἀποψύχων· τὸ δέ οἱ μέλαν εἵβεται αἷμα  
χιονέας κατὰ σαρκός, ὑπ' ὀφρύσι δ' ὄμματα ναρκῇ, 10  
καὶ τὸ ῥόδον φεύγει τῷ χεῖλεος· ἀμφὶ δὲ τήνῳ  
θνάσκει καὶ τὸ φίλημα, τὸ μήποτε Κύπρις ἀνοίσει.  
Κύπριδι μὲν τὸ φίλημα καὶ οὐ ζώνοντος ἀρέσκει,  
ἀλλ' οὐκ οἶδεν Ἀδωνις, ὃ νιν θνάσκοντ' ἐφίλησεν.  
αἰάζω τὸν Ἀδωνιν· ἐπαιάζουσιν Ἑρωτες.

ἄγριον ἄγριον ἔλκος ἔχει κατὰ μηρὸν Ἀδωνις·  
μεῖζον δ' ἂν Κυθήρεια φέρει ποτικάρδιον ἔλκος.

<sup>1</sup> κυανόστολα Wil : mss κυανοστόλε



# THE POEMS AND FRAGMENTS OF BION

## I—THE LAMENT FOR ADONIS

I CRY woe for Adonis and say *The beauteous Adonis is dead*, and the Loves cry me woe again and say *The beauteous Adonis is dead*.

Sleep no more, Cypris, beneath thy purple coverlet, but awake to thy misery, put on the sable robe and fall to beating thy breast, and tell it to the world, *The beauteous Adonis is dead*.

*Woe I cry for Adonis and the Loves cry woe again.*

The beauteous Adonis lieth low in the hills, his thigh pierced with the tusk, the white with the white, and Cypris is sore vexed at the gentle passing of his breath; for the red blood drips down his snow-white flesh, and the eyes beneath his brow wax dim; the rose departs from his lip, and the kiss that Cypris shall never have so again, that kiss dies upon it and is gone. Cypris is fain enough now of the kiss of the dead; but Adonis, he knows not that she hath kissed him.

*Woe I cry for Adonis and the Loves cry woe again*

Cruel, O cruel the wound in the thigh of him, but greater the wound in the heart of her. Loud did

BION I, 18-46

wail his familiar hounds, and loud now weep the Nymphs of the hill; but Aphrodite, she unbraids her tresses and goes wandering distraught, unkempt, unslipperd in the wild wood, and for all the briers may tear and rend her and cull her hallowed blood, she flies through the long glades shrieking amain, crying upon her Assyrian lord, calling upon the lad of her love. Meantime the red blood floated in a pool about his navel, his breast took on the purple that came of his thighs, and the paps thereof that had been as the snow waxed now incarnadine.

*The Loves cry woe again saying "Woe for Cytherea"*

Lost is her lovely lord, and with him lost her hallowed beauty. When Adonis yet lived Cypris was beautiful to see to, but when Adonis died her loveliness died also. With all the hills 'tis *Woe for Cypris* and with the vales 'tis *Woe for Adonis*; the rivers weep the sorrows of Aphrodite, the wells of the mountains shed tears for Adonis; the flowerets flush red for grief, and Cythera's isle over every foothill and every glen of it sings pitifully *Woe for Cytherea, the beauteous Adonis is dead*, and Echo ever cries her back again, *The beauteous Adonis is dead*. Who would not have wept his woe over the dire tale of Cypris' love?

She saw, she marked his irresistible wound, she saw his thigh fading in a welter of blood, she lift her hands and put up the voice of lamentation saying "Stay, Adonis mine, stay, hapless Adonis, till I come at thee for the last time, till I clip thee about and mingle lip with lip. Awake Adonis, awake for a little while, and give me one latest kiss, kiss me all so long as ever the kiss be alive, till thou give up

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἄχρῖς ἀποψύχῃς ἐς ἐμὸν στόμα κεῖς ἐμὸν ἦπαρ  
πνεῦμα τεδὸν ῥεύσῃ, τὸ δέ σευ γλυκὺ φίλτρον  
ἀμέλξω,

ἐκ δὲ πῖω τὸν ἔρωτα, φίλημα δὲ τοῦτο φυλάξω  
ὥς<sup>1</sup> αὐτὸν τὸν Ἀδωνιν, ἐπεὶ σύ με δύσμορε φεύγεις, 50  
φεύγεις μακρὸν Ἀδωνι, καὶ ἔρχεαι εἰς Ἀχέροντα  
πὰρ στυγνὸν βασιλῆα καὶ ἄγριον, ἃ δὲ τάλαινα  
ζῶω καὶ θεὸς ἐμμὶ καὶ οὐ δύναμαί σε διώκειν.  
λάβανε Περσεφύνα τὸν ἐμὸν πόσιν· ἐσσί γὰρ αὐτὰ  
πολλὸν ἐμεῦ κρέσσων, τὸ δὲ πᾶν καλὸν ἐς σέ  
καταρρεῖ.<sup>2</sup>

ἐμμὶ δ' ἐγὼ πανάποτμος, ἔχω δ' ἀκόρεστον ἀνίαν,  
καὶ κλαίω τὸν Ἀδωνιν, ὃ μοι θάνει, καὶ σε φοβεῦμαι.  
θνάσκεις ὦ τριπόθητε, πόθος δέ μοι ὥς ὄναρ ἔπτα,  
χῆρα δ' ἃ Κυθέρεια, κενοὶ δ' ἀνὰ δώματ' Ἑρωτες.  
σοὶ δ' ἄμα κεστὸς ὄλωλε. τί γὰρ τολμηρὲ κυνάγεις; 60  
καλὸς ἐὼν τοσσούτον ἐμήναο θηρὶ παλαίειν;  
ὦδ' ὀλοφύρατο Κύπρις· ἐπαιάζουσιν Ἑρωτες  
' αἰαὶ τὰν Κυθέρειαν, ἀπώλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις.'

δάκρυον ἃ Παφία τόσσον χέει, ὅσσον Ἀδωνις  
αἶμα χέει· τὰ δὲ πάντα ποτὶ χθονὶ γίνεταί ἄνθη.  
αἶμα ῥόδον τίκτει, τὰ δὲ δάκρυα τὰν ἀνεμώναν.  
αἰάζω τὸν Ἀδωνιν, ἀπώλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις.

μηκέτ' ἐνὶ δρυμοῖσι τὸν ἀνέρα μύρεο Κύπρι.  
οὐκ ἀγαθὰ στιβάς ἐστιν Ἀδώνιδι φυλλὰς ἐρήμα·  
λέκτρον ἔχοι Κυθέρεια τὸ σὸν καὶ<sup>3</sup> νεκρὸς Ἀδωνις. 70

<sup>1</sup> ὥς Mus. mss ὧς σ'    <sup>2</sup> καταρρεῖ Stephanus. mss καὶ ἔρρει  
<sup>3</sup> ἔχοι Valckenaer. mss ἔχει καὶ E mss νῦν δὲ  
or τὸ δὲ due to taking καὶ as "and"

# BION I, 47-70

thy breath into my mouth and thy spirit pass into my heart, till I have drawn the sweet milk of thy love-potion and I have drunk up all thy love; and that kiss of Adonis I will keep as it were he that gave it, now that thou fliest me, poor miserable, fliest me far and long, Adonis, and goest where is Acheron and the cruel sullen king, while I alas ' live and am a God and may not go after thee O Persephone, take thou my husband, take him if thou wilt; for thou art far stronger than I, and gettest to thy share all that is beautiful; but as for me, 'tis all ill and for ever, 'tis pain and grief without cloy, and I weep that my Adonis is dead and I fear me what thou wilt do. O dearest and sweetest and best, thou diest, and my dear love is sped like a dream; widowed now is Cytherea, the Loves are left idle in her bower, and the girdle of the Love-Lady is lost along with her beloved O rash and overbold! why didst go a-hunting? Wast thou so wood to pit thee against a wild beast and thou so fair?" This was the wail of Cypris, and now the Loves cry her woe again, saying *Woe for Cytherea, the beauteous Adonis is dead.*

The Paphian weeps and Adonis bleeds, drop for drop, and the blood and tears become flowers upon the ground. Of the blood comes the rose, and of the tears the windflower

*I cry woe for Adonis, the beauteous Adonis is dead.*

Mourn thy husband no more in the woods, sweet Cypris; the lonely leaves make no good lying for such as he: rather let Adonis have thy couch as in life so in death; for being dead, Cytherea, he is yet

" wood ": mad

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ νέκυς ὦν καλὸς ἐστὶ, καλὸς νέκυς, οἷα καθεύδων.  
 κάτθεό νιν μαλακοῖς ἐνὶ φάρεσιν οἷς<sup>1</sup> ἐνίανεν,  
 ᾧ μετὰ τεύς<sup>2</sup> ἀνὰ νύκτα τὸν ἱερὸν ὕπνον ἐμόχθει  
 παγχυρσέφῳ κλιντῆρι ποθεῖ καὶ στυμνὸν<sup>3</sup> Ἀδωνιν.  
 βάλλε δέ νιν στεφάνοισι καὶ ἄνθεσι· πάντα σὺν  
 αὐτῷ,

ὥς τῆνος τέθνακε καὶ ἄνθεα πάντα θανόντων.<sup>4</sup>  
 ῥαῖνε δέ νιν Συρίοισιν<sup>5</sup> ἀλείφασι, ῥαῖνε μύροισιν  
 ὀλλύσθω μύρα πάντα· τὸ σὸν μύρον ὦλετ' Ἀδωνις.  
 κέκλιται ἄβρὸς Ἀδωνις ἐν εἵμασι πορφυρέοισιν·  
 ἀμφὶ δέ νιν κλαίοντες ἀναστενάχουσιν Ἐρωτες 80  
 κειράμενοι χαίτας ἐπ' Ἀδώνιδι· χῶ μὲν οἰστῶς,  
 ὃς δ' ἐπὶ τόξον ἔβαλλεν, ὃς δὲ πτερόν, ὃς δὲ φαρέ-  
 τραν·

χῶ μὲν ἔλυσε πέδιλον Ἀδώνιδος, οἷ δὲ λέβητι  
 χρυσείῳ φορέουσιν ὕδωρ, ὃ δὲ μηρία λούει,  
 ὃς δ' ὀπιθεν πτερύγεσσι ἀναψύχει τὸν Ἀδωνιν.  
 'αἰαῖ' τὰν Κυθήρειαν' ἐπαιάζουσιν Ἐρωτες.

ἔσβεσε λαμπάδα πᾶσαν ἐπὶ φλιαῖς Ὑμέναιος,  
 καὶ στέφος ἐξεπέτασσε γαμήλιον· οὐκέτι δ' Ὑμῆν, 90  
 Ὑμῆν οὐκέτ' αἶδει ἐὼν μέλος, ἀλλ' ἐπαείδει<sup>8</sup>  
 'αἰαῖ' καὶ 'τὸν Ἀδωνιν' ἔτι πλέον ἢ Ὑμέναιον.  
 αἱ Χάριτες κλαίουσι τὸν νύκτα τῷ Κινύραο,  
 'ὦλετο καλὸς Ἀδωνις' ἐν ἀλλάλαισι λέγουσαι.  
 'αἰαῖ' δ' ὁξὺ λέγοντι πολὺ πλέον ἢ Παιῶνα.<sup>9</sup>  
 χαῖ<sup>10</sup> Μοῖραι τὸν Ἀδωνιν ἀνακλείουσιν· Ἀδωνιν,

<sup>1</sup> οἷς Steph mss οἷ <sup>2</sup> ᾧ E mss τοῖς τεύς Wil· mss  
 σεῦ <sup>3</sup> στυμνὸν E, see *Class. Rev.* mss στυγνόν <sup>4</sup> πάντα  
 θανόντων E, cf. 78 mss πάντ' ἐμαράνθη emended from *Erz.*  
*Bion.* 69 after πάντα σὺν αὐτῷ had come in from above

## BION I, 71-96

lovely, lovely in death as he were asleep. Lay him down in the soft coverlets wherein he used to slumber, upon that couch of solid gold whereon he used to pass the nights in sacred sleep with thee; for the very couch longs for Adonis, Adonis all dishevelled. Fling garlands also and flowers upon him; now that he is dead let them die too, let every flower die. Pour out upon him unguents of Syria, perfumes of Syria; perish now all perfumes, for he that was thy perfume is perished and gone.

There he lies, the delicate Adonis, in purple wrappings, and the weeping Loves lift up their voices in lamentation; they have shorn their locks for Adonis' sake. This flung upon him arrows, that a bow, this a feather, that a quiver. One hath done off Adonis' shoe, others fetch water in a golden basin, another washes the thighs of him, and again another stands behind and fans him with his wings.

*The Loves cry woe again saying "Woe for Cytherea"*

The Wedding-God hath put out every torch before the door, and scattered the bridal garland upon the ground; the burden of his song is no more "Ho for the Wedding;" there's more of "Woe" and "Adonis" to it than ever there was of the wedding-cry. The Graces weep the son of Cinyras, saying one to another, *The beautiful Adonis is dead*, and when they cry woe 'tis a shriller cry than ever the cry of thanksgiving. Nay, even the Fates weep and wail for Adonis, calling upon his name; and more-

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καί νιν ἐπαείδουσιν· ὃ δέ σφισιν οὐχ ὑπακούει·  
οὐ μὰν οὐκ ἐθέλει, Κώρα δέ νιν οὐκ ἀπολύει.

λῆγε γόων Κυθήρεια τὸ σάμερον, ἴσχεο κομμῶν.<sup>1</sup>  
δεῖ σε πάλιν κλαῦσαι, πάλιν εἰς ἔτος ἄλλο  
δακρῦσαι.

<sup>1</sup> κομμῶν Barth mss κώμων

BION I, 97-100

over they sing a spell upon him to bring him back again, but he payeth no heed to it ; yet 'tis not from lack of the will, but rather that the Maiden will not let him go

Give over thy wailing for to-day, Cytherea, and beat not now thy breast any more , thou needs wilt wail again and weep again, come another year.





## II.—ACHILLES AMONG THE MAIDENS

*THIS fragmentary shepherd-mime is probably to be ascribed to an imitator of Bion At Myrson's request, Lycidas sings him the tale of Achilles at Scyros.*

## II.—[ΜΥΡΣΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΛΥΚΙΔΑΣ]

### ΜΥΡΣΩΝ

Λῆς νύ τί μοι Λυκίδα Σικελὸν μέλος ἀδὺ λιγαίνειν,  
 ἱμερόεν γλυκύθυμον ἔρωτικόν, οἶον ὁ Κύκλωψ  
 ἄεισεν Πολύφαμος ἐπαονία<sup>1</sup> Γαλατεία;

### ΛΥΚΙΔΑΣ

κῆμοι<sup>2</sup> συρίσδεν, Μύρσων, φίλον· ἀλλὰ τί μέλψω;

### ΜΥΡΣΩΝ

Σκύριον ὦ Λυκίδα ζαλώμενον<sup>3</sup> ἀδὺν ἔρωτα,  
 λάθρια Πηλείδαο φιλάματα, λάθριον εὐνάν,  
 πῶς παῖς ἔσσατο φᾶρος, ὅπως δ' ἐψεύσατο<sup>4</sup> μορφὰν  
 κῆν κώραισιν ὅπως<sup>5</sup> Λυκομηδίσιν ἀπαλέγοισα  
 ἠείδῃ κατὰ<sup>6</sup> παστὸν Ἀχιλλέα Δηιδάμεια.

### ΛΥΚΙΔΑΣ

Ἄρπασε τὰν Ἑλέναν πόθ' ὁ βουκόλος, ἄγε δ' ἐς  
 Ἰδαν,  
 Οἰνῶνα κακὸν ἄλγος. ἐχώσατο δ' ἅ Λακεδαίμων,

<sup>1</sup> ἐπαονία E, cf. Theocr 25 249. mss ἐπ' ἡιόνι <sup>2</sup> κῆμοι  
 Biunck mss κῆν μοι <sup>3</sup> ζαλώμενον Wil mss ζαλῶν μένος  
<sup>4</sup> ἐψεύσατο Canter, cf Nonn Dion. 44 289 mss ἐγεύσατο  
<sup>5</sup> thus Wil mss κῆν ὅπως ἐν κώραις <sup>6</sup> ἠείδῃ (from οἶδα) κατὰ  
 E, cf Moerio *αμ.* Athen. 491 B. mss ἀηδήνηγα τὰ

## II.—[ACHILLES AMONG THE MAIDENS]

MYRSON

THEN prithee, Lycidas, wilt thou chant me some pretty lay of Sicily, some delightful sweetheart song of love such as the Cyclops sang to Galatea of the sea-beaches ?

LYCIDAS

I myself should like to make some music, Myrson; so what shall it be ?

MYRSON

The sweet and enviable love-tale of Scyros, Lycidas, the stolen kisses of the child of Peleus and the stolen espousal of the same, how a lad donned women's weeds and played the knave with his outward seeming, and how in the women's chamber the reckless Deidameia found out Achilles among the daughters of Lycomedes.

LYCIDAS (*sings*)

Once on a day, and a woeful day for the wife that  
loved him well,  
The neatherd stole fair Helen and bare her to Ida  
fell.

“The wife that loved him well”: Oenōnē, wife of Paris.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

πάντα δὲ λαὸν ἄγειρεν Ἀχαικόν, οὐδέ τις Ἑλλήν  
 οὔτε Μυκηναίων οὔτ' Ἥλιδος οὔτε Λακώνων,  
 μέινειν ἐὼν κατὰ δῶμα φυγῶν δύστανον Ἄρηα.<sup>1</sup>  
 λάνθανε δ' ἐν κώραις Λυκομηδίσι μοῦνος Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 εἴρια δ' ἀνθ' ὅπλων ἐδιδάσκετο, καὶ χερὶ λευκᾷ  
 παρθενικὸν κόπον<sup>2</sup> εἶχεν, ἐφαίνετο δ' ἥντε κώρα·  
 καὶ γὰρ ἴσον τήναις θηλύνετο, καὶ τόσον ἄνθος  
 χιονέαις πόρφυρε παρησίσι, καὶ τὸ βάδισμα  
 παρθενικῆς ἐβάδιζε, κόμας δ' ἐπύκαζε καλύπτρα. 20  
 θυμὸν δ' ἀνέρος<sup>3</sup> εἶχε, καὶ ἀνέρος εἶχεν ἔρωτα·  
 ἐξ αὐτοῦ δ' ἐπὶ νύκτα παρίζετο<sup>4</sup> Δηιδαμεία,  
 καὶ ποτὲ μὲν τήνας ἐφίλει χέρα, πολλάκι δ' αὐτὰς  
 στάμονα καλὸν ἄειρε, τὰ δαίδαλα δ' ἄτρι'<sup>5</sup> ἐπῆνει·  
 ἦσθιε δ' οὐκ ἄλλα σὺν ὁμάλικι, πάντα δ' ἐποίει  
 σπεύδων κοινὸν ἐς ὕπνον. ἔλεξέ νυ καὶ λόγον αὐτᾷ·  
 ' ἄλλαι<sup>6</sup> μὲν κνώσσουσι σὺν ἀλλάλαισιν ἀδελφαί,  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ μῶνα, μῶνα<sup>7</sup> δὲ σὺ νύμφα καθεύδεις.  
 αἱ δύο παρθενικαὶ<sup>8</sup> συνομάλικες, αἱ δύο καλαί·  
 ἀλλὰ μόναι κατὰ<sup>9</sup> λέκτρα καθεύδομες· ἃ δὲ πονηρὰ 30  
 Νυσαία<sup>10</sup> δολία με κακῶς ἀπὸ σείο μερίσδει.  
 οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ σέο . . . . '

<sup>1</sup> φυγῶν δύστανον Bentley: mss φέρων δισσι ἀνὰν or δισσί  
 ἀνὰν or δυσὶν ἀγνόν Ἄρηα Scaliger mss ἄρηα <sup>2</sup> κόπον E.  
 mss κόρον or χορὸν δ' ἀνέρος Lennep: mss δ' Ἄρεος

<sup>4</sup> παρίζετο Canter mss μερίζ. <sup>5</sup> στάμονα Scal mss στόμ'  
 ἀνὰ δαίδαλα δ' ἄτρι' Len mss δ' ἄδεα δάκρυ <sup>6</sup> ἄλλαι E.  
 mss ἄλλαι <sup>7</sup> μῶνα μῶνα Len mss μῶνα μίμνω <sup>8</sup> αἱ δύο π.

# BION II, 12-32

Sparta was wroth and roused to arms Achaea wide  
and far ;

Mycenae, Elis, Sparta-land—

No Greek but scorned at home to stand

For all the woes of war.

Yet one lay hid the maids amid, Achilles was he hight ;

Instead of arms he learnt to spin

And with wan hand his rest to win,

His cheeks were snow-white freakt with red,

He wore a kerchief on his head,

And woman-lightsome was his tread,

All maiden to the sight.

Yet man was he in his heart, and man was he in  
his love ;

From dawn to dark he'd sit him by

A maid yclept Deidamy,

And oft would kiss her hand, and oft

Would set her weaver's-beam aloft

And praise the web she wove.

Come dinner-time, he'd go to board that only may  
beside,

And do his best of deed and word to win her for his  
bride ;

"The others share both board and bed," such wont  
his words to be,

"I sleep alone and you alone; though we be maidens  
free,

Maidens and fair maidens, we sleep on pallets two ;

'Tis that cruel crafty Nysa that is parting me and  
you. . ."

"with wan hand" the un-sunburnt hand of an indoor-  
living person

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Salmasius: mss αἱ δ' ὑπὸ π <sup>9</sup> κατὰ Scal: mss καὶ  
<sup>10</sup> Νύσσα Wil: mss Νύσσα or Νύσσα γὰρ



### III-XVIII

*THE remaining poems and fragments are preserved in quotations made by Stobaeus, with the exception of the last, which is quoted by the grammarian Orion (Anth 5, 4).*



### III.—[ΚΛΕΟΔΑΜΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΜΥΡΣΩΝ]

#### ΚΛΕΟΔΑΜΟΣ

Εἵαρος ὦ Μύρσων ἡ χείματος ἡ φθινοπώρῳ  
 ἡ θέρεος τί τοι ἀδύ; τί δὲ πλέον εὐχεαι ἐλθεῖν;  
 ἡ θέρος, ἀνίκα πάντα τελείεται ὅσσα μογεῦμες;  
 ἡ γλυκερὸν φθινόπωρον, ὅτ' ἀνδράσι λιμὸς ἐλαφρά;  
 ἡ καὶ χεῖμα δύσεργον; ἐπεὶ καὶ χείματι πολλοὶ  
 θαλπόμενοι θέλγονται<sup>1</sup> ἀεργεῖα τε καὶ ὄκνη·  
 ἡ τοι καλὸν ἔαρ πλέον εὐαδεν; εἰπέ, τί τοι φρήν  
 αἰρεῖται; λαλέειν γὰρ ἐπέτραπεν ἅ σχολὰ ἄμμιν.

#### ΜΥΡΣΩΝ

κρίνειν οὐκ ἐπέοικε θεῖα ἔργα βροτοῖσι·  
 πάντα γὰρ ἱερὰ ταῦτα καὶ ἀδέα· σεῦ δὲ ἕκατι  
 ἐξερέω Κλεόδαμε, τό μοι πέλεν ἄδιον ἄλλων.  
 οὐκ ἐθέλω θέρος ἡμεν, ἐπεὶ τόκα μ' ἄλιος ὀπτῇ.  
 οὐκ ἐθέλω φθινόπωρον, ἐπεὶ νόσον ὥρια τίκτει.  
 οὐλον χεῖμα φέρειν· νιφετὸν κρυμῶς τε φοβεῦμαι.  
 εἴαρ ἐμοὶ τριπόθητον ὄλῳ λυκάβαντι παρείη,  
 ἀνίκα μήτε κρύος μήθ' ἄλιος ἄμμε βαρύνει.  
 εἴαρι πάντα κύει, πάντ' εἵαρος ἀδέα βλαστέϊ,  
 χὰ νύξ ἀνθρώποισιν ἴσα καὶ ὁμοίος ἀώς. . .

<sup>1</sup> θέλγονται Ursinus mss θάλποντας

### III —[FROM A SHEPHERD-MIME]

CLEODAMUS

WHICH will you have is sweetest, Myrson, spring, winter, autumn, or summer? which are you fairest should come? Summer, when all our labours are fulfilled, or sweet autumn when our hunger is least and lightest, or the winter when no man can work—for winter also hath delights for many with her warm firesides and leisure hours—or doth the pretty spring-time please you best? Say, where is the choice of your heart? To be sure, we have time and to spare for talking

MYRSON

'Tis unseemly for mortal men to judge of the works of Heaven, and all these four are sacred, and every one of them sweet. But since you ask me, Cleodamus, I will tell you which I hold to be sweeter than the rest. I will not have your summer, for then the sun burns me; I will not have your autumn, neither, for that time o' year breeds disease, and as for your winter, he is intolerable; I cannot away with frost and snow. For my part, give me all the year round the dear delightful spring, when cold doth not chill nor sun burn. In the spring the world's a-breeding, in the spring the world's all sweet buds, and our days are as long as our nights and our nights as our days. . . .

# THE BUCOLIC POETS

## IV

Ἴξευτὰς ἔτι κῶρος ἐν ἄλσει δενδράεντι  
 ὄρνεα θηρεύων τὸν ἀπότροπον εἶδεν Ἑρωτα  
 ἐσδόμενον πύξοιο ποτὶ κλάδον· ὥς δ' ἐνόησε,  
 χαίρων ὥνεκα δὴ μέγα φαίνεται τῶρνεον αὐτῷ,  
 τὼς καλὰ μὲν ἅμα πάντας ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι συνάπτων  
 τᾷ καὶ τᾷ τὸν Ἑρωτα μετὰ λμνον ἀμφεδόκευε.  
 χῶ παῖς ἀσχαλάων, ὅκα<sup>1</sup> οἱ τέλος οὐδὲν ἀπάντη,  
 τὼς καλὰ μὲν ῥίψας ποτ' ἀροτρεὰ πρέσβυν ἵκανε,  
 ὅς νιν τάνδε τέχνην ἐδιδάξατο, καὶ λέγειν αὐτῷ,  
 καὶ οἱ δεῖξεν Ἑρωτα καθήμενον. αὐτὰρ ὁ πρέσβυς  
 μειδιάων κίνησε κάρη καὶ ἀμείβετο παῖδα·  
 “φείδες τὰς θήρας, μηδ' ἐς τόδε τῶρνεον ἔρχευ.  
 φεύγε μακράν. κακὸν ἐστὶ τὸ θηρίον. ὄλβιος ἐσση,  
 εἰσόκα μὴ νιν ἔλθης· ἦν δ' ἀνέρος ἐς μέτρον ἔλθης,  
 οὗτος ὁ νῦν φεύγων καὶ ἀπάλμενος αὐτὸς ἀφ' αὐτῷ  
 ἔλθων ἐξαπίνας κεφαλὰν ἐπὶ σείῳ καθιξεῖ.”

## V

Ἄ μεγάλα μοι Κύπρις ἔθ' ὑπνώοντι παρέστα,  
 νηπίαχον τὸν Ἑρωτα καλᾶς ἐκ χειρὸς ἄγοισα  
 ἐς χθόνα νευστάζοντα, τόσον δέ μοι ἔφρασε μῦθον·  
 “μέλπειν μοι φίλε βοῦτα λαβὼν τὸν Ἑρωτα  
 δίδασκε.”  
 ὥς λέγει· χαῖ μὲν ἀπῆνθεν, ἐγὼ δ' ὅσα βουκολίασδον,  
 νήπιος ὥς ἐθέλοντα μαθεῖν τὸν Ἑρωτα δίδασκον,  
 ὥς εὔρε πλαγίαυλον ὁ Πάν, ὥς αὐλὸν Ἀθάνα,  
 ὥς χέλυν Ἑρμᾶων, κίθαριν ὥς ἄδὺς Ἀπόλλων.

<sup>1</sup> ὅκα Porson . mss οὔνεκα

## BION IV-V

### IV.—[LOVE AND THE FOWLER]

ONE day a fowler-lad was out after birds in a coppice, when he espied perching upon a box-tree bough the shy retiring Love. Rejoicing that he had found what seemed him so fine a bird, he fits all his lime-rods together and lies in wait for that hopping-hopping quarry. But soon finding that there was no end to it, he flew into a rage, cast down his rods, and sought the old ploughman who had taught him his trade; and both told him what had happened and showed him where young Love did sit. At that the old man smiled and wagged his wise head, and answered: "Withhold thy hand, my lad, and go not after this bird; flee him far; 'tis evil game. Thou shalt be happy so long as thou catch him not, but so sure as thou shalt come to the stature of a man, he that hoppeth and scapeth thee now will come suddenly of himself and light upon thy head."

### V.—[LOVE'S SCHOOLING]

I DREAMED and lo! the great Cyprian stood before me. Her fair hand did lead, with head hanging, the little silly Love, and she said to me: "Pray you, sweet Shepherd, take and teach me this child to sing and play," and so was gone. So I fell to teaching master Love, fool that I was, as one willing to learn; and taught him all my lore of country-music, to wit how Pan did invent the cross-flute and Athena the flute, Hermes the lyre and sweet Apollo the harp

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ταῦτά νιν ἐξεδίδασκον· ὃ δ' οὐκ ἐμπάζετο μῦθων,  
ἀλλὰ μοι αὐτὸς ἀείδεν ἐρωτύλα, καί μ' ἐδίδασκε  
θνατῶν ἀθανάτων τε πόθως καὶ ματέρος ἔργα.  
κῆγών ἐκλαθόμαν μὲν ὅσων τὸν Ἑρωτ' ἐδίδασκον,  
ὅσσα δ' Ἑρωσ μ' ἐδίδαξεν ἐρωτύλα πάντ' ἐδιδάχθην.

### VI

Ταὶ Μοῖσαι τὸν Ἑρωτα τὸν ἄγριον οὐ φοβέονται  
ἐκ θυμῷ δὲ φιλεῦντι καὶ ἐκ ποδὸς αὐτῷ ἔπονται.  
κῆν μὲν ἄρα ψυχάν τις ἔχων ἀνέραστον αἰείδῃ,  
τῆνον ὑπεκφεύγουσι καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλονται διδάσκειν·  
ἦν δὲ νόον τις <sup>1</sup> Ἑρωτι δονεῦμενος ἀδὺ μελίσδῃ,  
ἐς τῆνον μάλα πᾶσαι ἐπειγόμεναι προρέοντι.  
μάρτυς ἐγών, ὅτι μῦθος ὃδ' ἔπλετο πᾶσιν ἀλαθής.  
ἦν μὲν γὰρ βροτὸν ἄλλον ἢ ἀθανάτων τινὰ μέλπω,  
βαμβαίνει μοι γλῶσσα καὶ ὥς πάρος οὐκέτ' αἰεῖδει·  
ἦν δ' αὖτ' ἐς τὸν Ἑρωτα καὶ ἐς Λυκίδα τι μελίσδῳ,  
καὶ τόκα μοι χαίροισα διὰ στόματος ῥέει αὐδά.

### VII

... Οὐκ οἶδ', οὐδ' ἐπέοικεν ἂ μὴ μάθομες πονέ-  
εσθαι.  
εἴ μοι καλὰ πέλει τὰ μελύδρια, καὶ τάδε μῶνα  
κῦδος ἐμοὶ θήσονται, τά μοι πάρος ὥπασε Μοῖρα·  
εἰ δ' οὐχ ὑδέα ταῦτα, τί μοι ποτὶ <sup>2</sup> πλείονα μοχθεῖν;  
εἰ μὲν γὰρ βιότῳ διπλόον χρόνον ἄμμιν ἔδωκεν  
ἢ Κρονίδας ἢ Μοῖρα πολύτροπος, ὥστ' ἀνύεσθαι

<sup>1</sup> τις Brunck mss τῷ <sup>2</sup> ποτὶ Ahr. mss πολὺ

## BION V-VII

But nay, the child would give no heed to aught I might say ; rather would he be singing love-songs of his own, and taught me of the doings of his mother and the desires of Gods and men. And as for all the lore I had been teaching master Love, I clean forgot it, but the love-songs master Love taught me, I learnt them every one.

### VI.—[A LOVE POEM]

THE Muses know no fear of the cruel Love ; rather do their hearts befriend him greatly and their footsteps follow him close. And let one that hath not love in his soul sing a song, and they forthwith slink away and will not teach him ; but if sweet music be made by him that hath, then fly they all unto him hot-foot And if you ask me how I know that this is very truth, I tell you I may sing praise of any other, be he God or man, and my tongue will wag falteringly and refuse me her best ; but if my music be of love and Lycidas, then my voice floweth from my lips rejoicing

### VII.—[THE POET'S PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE]

. . I know not, and 'tis unseemly to labour aught we wot not of If my poor songs are good, I shall have fame out of such things as Fate hath bestowed upon me already—they will be enough ; but if they are bad, what boots it me to go toiling on ? If we men were given, be it of the Son of Cronus or of fickle Fate, two lives, the one for pleasuring and mirth and

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τὸν μὲν ἐς εὐφροσύναν καὶ χάρματα, τὸν δ' ἐπὶ<sup>1</sup>  
 μόχθῳ,  
 ἦν τάχα μοχθήσαντί ποθ' ὕστερον ἐσθλὰ δέχεσθαι.  
 εἰ δὲ θεοὶ κατένευσαν ἓνα χρόνον ἐς βίον ἐλθεῖν  
 ἀνθρώποις, καὶ τόνδε βραχὺν καὶ μέiona πάντων,  
 ἐς πόσον ἂ δειλοὶ καμάτως κεῖς ἔργα πονεῦμες,  
 ψυχὰν δ' ἄχρι τίνος ποτὶ κέρδεα καὶ ποτὶ τέχνας  
 βάλλομες, ἰμείροντες αἰὲ πολὺν πλείονος ὄλβω;  
 λαθόμεθ' ἢ ἄρα<sup>2</sup> πάντες, ὅτι θνατοὶ γενόμεσθα,  
 χῶς βραχὺν ἐκ Μοίρας λάχομες χρόνον; . . .

### VIII

Ὀλβιοι οἱ φιλέοντες, ἐπὴν ἴσον ἀντεράωνται.  
 ὄλβιος ἦν Θησεὺς τῷ Πειριθῷ παρεόντος,  
 εἰ καὶ ἀμειλίκτοιο κατήλυθεν εἰς Ἀΐδαο.  
 ὄλβιος ἦν χαλεποῖσιν ἐν Ἀξείνοισιν Ὀρέστας,  
 ὠνεκά οἱ ξυνὰς Πυλάδας ἄρητο<sup>3</sup> κελεύθως.  
 ἦν μάκαρ Αἰακίδας ἐτάρῳ ζώοντος Ἀχιλλεύς·  
 ὄλβιος ἦν θνάσκων, ὅτι οἱ μόρον αἰνὸν ἄμυνεν.

### IX

Ἔσπερε, τᾶς ἐρατᾶς χρύσειον φάος Ἀφρογενείας,  
 Ἔσπερε κυανέας ἱερὸν φίλε νυκτὸς ἄγαλμα,  
 τόσσον ἀφαυρότερος μήνας, ὅσον ἔξοχος ἄστρον,  
 χαῖρε φίλος, καί μοι ποτὶ ποιμένα κῶμον ἄγοντι  
 ἀντὶ σελαναίας τὴν δίδου φάος, ὦνεκα τήνα

<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ Wil: mss ἐνι    <sup>2</sup> cf Mosch 2. 140    <sup>3</sup> ἄρητο Grotius:  
 mss ἔροιο or ἔρκοτο

## BION VII-IX

the other for toil, then perhaps might one do the toiling first and get the good things afterward. But seeing Heaven's decree is, man shall live but once, and that for too brief a while to do all he would, then O how long shall we go thus miserably toiling and moiling, and how long shall we lavish our life upon getting and making, in the consuming desire for more wealth and yet more? Is it that we all forget that we are mortal and Fate hath allotted us so brief a span?

### VIII.—[REQUIRED LOVE]

HAPPY are lovers when their love is requited. Theseus, for all he found Hades at the last implacable, was happy because Perithous went with him; and happy Orestes among the cruel Inhospitables, because Pylades had chosen to share his wanderings; happy also lived Achilles Aeacid while his dear comrade was alive, and died happy, seeing he so avenged his dreadful fate.

### IX —[TO HESPERUS]

EVENING Star, which art the golden light of the lovely Child o' the Foam, dear Evening Star, which art the holy jewel of the blue blue Night, even so much dimmer than the Moon as brighter than any other star that shines, hail, gentle friend, and while I go a-serenading my shepherd love shew me a light instead of the Moon, for that she being new but

“his dear comrade” Patroclus. “Inhospitables” the barbarous inhabitants of the shores of the Black Sea. “Child o' the Foam” Aphrodite.



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

σάμερον ἀρχομένα τάχιον δύνει. οὐκ ἐπὶ φωρὰν  
ἔρχομαι, οὐδ' ἵνα νυκτὸς ὁδοιπορέοντας ἐνοχλέω.  
ἀλλ' ἐράω· καλὸν δέ τ' ἐρασσασμένῳ συναρέσθαι.

### X

" Ἀμερε Κυπρογένεια, Διὸς τέκος ἡὲ θαλάσσης,  
τίπτε τόσον θνατοῖσι καὶ ἀθανάτοισι χάλεπτες;<sup>1</sup>  
τυτθὸν ἔφαν· τί νυ τόσσον ἀπήχθεο καὶ τειν<sup>2</sup>  
αὐτᾶ,  
ταλίκον ὥς πάντεσσι κακὸν τὸν Ἑρωτα τεκέσθαι,<sup>3</sup>  
ἄγριον, ἄστοργον, μορφᾷ νόον οὐδὲν ὁμοῖον;  
ἐς τί δέ νιν πτανὸν καὶ ἐκαβόλον ὥπασας ἦμεν,  
ὥς μὴ πικρὸν εἶντα δυναίμεθα τήνον ἀλύξαι;

### XI—Εἰς τὸν Ὑακινθόν

... ἀμφασία τὸν Φοῖβον ἔλεν τὸ σὸν ἄλγος ὀρῶντα.<sup>4</sup>  
δίζετο φάρμακα πάντα, σοφὰν δ' ἐπεμαίετο<sup>5</sup>  
τέχναν,  
χρίεν δ' ἀμβροσίᾳ καὶ νέκταρι, χρίεν ἅπασαν  
ὠτειλάν· Μοίραισι δ' ἀναλθέα φάρμακα πάντα . . .

### XII

. . . αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν βασεῦμαι ἐμὰν ὁδὸν ἐς τὸ κάταντες  
τήνο ποτὶ ψάμαθόν τε καὶ αἶονα ψιθυρίσδων,  
λίσσόμενος Γαλάτειαν ἀπηνέα· τὰς δὲ γλυκείας  
ἐλπίδας ὑστατίῳ μέχρι γήραος οὐκ ἀπολειψῶ . . .

<sup>1</sup> χάλεπτες E = you were troublesome· mss χάλεπτεις

<sup>2</sup> τειν Hermann mss τιν <sup>3</sup> τεκέσθαι Herm. mss τέκηαι

## BION IX-XII

yesterday is too quickly set I be no thief nor highwayman—'tis not for that I'm abroad at night—, but a lover ; and lovers deserve all aid.

### X —[TO APHRODITE]

GENTLE Dame of Cyprus, be'st thou child of Zeus, or child of the sea, pray tell me why wast so unkind alike unto Gods and men—nay, I'll say moie, why so hateful unto thyself, as to bring forth so great and universal a mischief as this Love, so cruel, so heartless, so all unlike in ways and looks<sup>?</sup> and wherefore also these wings and archeries that we may not escape him when he oppresseth us<sup>?</sup>

### XI —OF HYACINTHUS

.. When he beheld thy agony Phoebus was dumb. He sought every remedy, he had recourse to cunning arts, he anointed all the wound, anointed it with ambrosia and with nectar ; but all remedies are powerless to heal the wounds of Fate ..

### XII —[GALATEA'S LOVER]

... But I will go my way to yonder hillside, singing low to sand and shore my supplication of the cruel Galatea ; for I will not give over my sweet hopes till I come unto uttermost old age . .

<sup>4</sup> ὀρῶντα Usener : mss ἔχοντα  
mss ἐπεβαίνετο or ἐπεβώσατο

<sup>5</sup> ἐπεμαίετο Vulcanius .

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### XIII

... οὐ καλὸν ὦ φίλε πάντα λόγον ποτὶ τέκτονα  
φοιτᾶν,  
μηδ' ἐπὶ πάντ' ἄλλω<sup>1</sup> χρέος ἰσχύμεν· ἀλλὰ καὶ  
αὐτὸς  
τεχνᾶσθαι σύριγγα· πέλει δέ τοι εὐμαρὲς ἔργον...

### XIV

Μοῖσας Ἔρως καλέοι, Μοῖσαι τὸν Ἔρωτα φέροιεν.  
μολπὰν ταὶ Μοῖσαί μοι αἰὲ ποθέοντι διδοῖεν,  
τὰν γλυκερὰν μολπὰν, τᾶς φάρμακον ἄδιον  
οὐδέεν.

### XV

... ἐκ θαμνῶς ραθάμυγγος, ὅπως λόγος, αἰὲς  
ιοίσας  
χὰ λίθος ἐς ῥωχμὸν κοιλαίνεται. ...

### XVI

... μηδὲ λήπης μ' ἀγέραςτον, ἐπεὶ χῶ Φοῖβος  
αἰείδων  
μισθοδοκεῖ.<sup>2</sup> τιμὰ δὲ τὰ πράγματα κρέσσονα  
ποιεῖ...

<sup>1</sup> μηδ' ἐπὶ Grotius : mss μηδέ τοι ἄλλω Salmasius mss  
ἄλλο <sup>2</sup> αἰείδων μισθοδοκεῖ E : mss αἰεῖειν μισθὸν ἔδωκε

## BION XIII-XVI

### XIII.—[DO IT YOURSELF]

. It is not well, friend, to go to a craftsman upon all matters, nor to resort unto another man in every business, but rather to make you a pipe yourself; and 'faith, 'tis not so hard, neither . . .

### XIV —[LOVE AND SONG]

MAY Love call the Muses, and the Muses bring Love; and may the Muses ever give me song at my desire, dear melodious song, the sweetest physic in the world.

### XV —[PERSISTENCE]

. 'Tis said a continual dripping will e'en wear a hollow in a stone . .

### XVI.—[WORTHY OF HIS HIRE]

. . . I pray you leave me not without some reward; for even Phoebus is paid for his music, and a meed maketh things better . .

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

### XVII

... μορφὰ θηλυτέραισι πέλει καλόν, ἀνέρι δ'  
ἄλκά...

### XVIII

πάντα θεοῦ γ' ἐθέλοντος ἀνύσιμα, πάντα βροτοῖσιν  
ἐκ μακάρων ῥάιστα καὶ οὐκ ἀτέλεστα γέγοντο.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ῥάιστα Ληι mss γὰρ ῥάστα γέγοντο Ληι mss γένοιτο

## BION XVII-XVIII

### XVII —[AFTER THEIR KIND]

. . The woman's glory is her beauty, the man's  
his strength . .

### XVIII.—[GOD WILLING]

. All things may be achieved if Heav'n will ; all  
is possible, nay, all is very easy if the Blessed make  
it so



III

THE POEMS OF MOSCHUS





## I.—THE RUNAWAY LOVE

CYPRIS *has lost her boy Love, and cries him in the streets.*

## ΜΟΣΧΟΥ ΣΙΚΕΛΙΩΤΟΥ

### I —ΕΡΩΣ ΔΡΑΠΕΤΗΣ

Ἄ Κύπρις τὸν Ἑρωτα τὸν νιέα μακρὸν ἐβώστρει  
“ ὅστις ἐνὶ τριόδοισι πλανώμενον εἶδεν Ἑρωτα,  
δραπετίδας ἐμός ἐστιν· ὁ μανύσας γέρας ἐξεῖ·  
μισθὸν τοι τὸ φίλημα τὸ Κύπριδος· ἦν δ' ἀγάγη  
νιν,  
οὐ γυμνὸν τὸ φίλημα, τὸ δ' ὦ ξένη καὶ πλέον ἐξεῖς.  
ἔστι δ' ὁ παῖς περίσαμος· ἐν εἴκοσι παισὶ<sup>1</sup> μάθοις  
νιν.  
χρῶτα μὲν οὐ λεύκος, πυρὶ δ' εἵκελος· ὄμματα δ'  
αὐτῷ  
δριμύλα καὶ φλογόεντα· κακαὶ φρένες, ἀδὺ λάλημα·  
οὐ γὰρ ἴσον νοέει καὶ φθέγγεται· ὥς μέλι φωνά,  
ὥς δὲ χολὰ νόος ἐστίν· ἀνάμερος, ἡπεροπευτάς,  
οὐδὲν ἀλαθεύων, δόλιον βρέφος, ἄγρια παίσδων.  
εὐπλόκαμον τὸ κάρανον, ἔχει δ' ἰταμόν τὸ μέτωπον.  
μικκύλα μὲν τήνῳ τὰ χερύδρια, μακρὰ δὲ βάλλει,  
βάλλει κεῖς Ἀχέροντα καὶ εἰς Αἶδα βασιλεία.  
γυμνὸς ὅλος τό γε σῶμα, νόος δέ οἱ εὖ πεπύκασται.  
καὶ πτερόεις ὥς ὄρνις ἐφίπταται ἄλλον ἐπ' ἄλλῳ,  
ἀνέρας ἢ δὲ γυναῖκας, ἐπὶ σπλάγχνοις δὲ κάθηται.  
τόξον ἔχει μάλα βαιόν, ὑπὲρ τόξῳ δὲ βέλεμνον,

<sup>1</sup> παισὶ Heinsius : mss πᾶσι

## THE POEMS OF MOSCHUS

### I.—THE RUNAWAY LOVE

CYPRIS one day made hue and cry after her son Love and said : " Whosoever hath seen one Love loitering at the street-corners, know that he is my runaway, and any that shall bring me word of him shall have a reward ; and the reward shall be the kiss of Cypris ; and if he bring her runaway with him, the kiss shall not be all. He is a notable lad , he shall be known among twenty : complexion not white but rather like to fire ; eyes keen and beamy ; of an ill disposition but fair spoken, for he means not what he says—'tis voice of honey, heart of gall ; froward, cozening, a ne'er-say-troth ; a wily brat ; makes cruel play His hair is plenty, his forehead bold , his baby hands tiny but can shoot a long way, aye, e'en across Acheron into the dominions of Death. All naked his body, but well covered his mind. He's winged like a bird and flies from one to another, women as well as men, and alights upon their hearts. He hath a very little bow and upon it an arrow ; 'tis

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

τυτθὸν μὲν τὸ βέλεμνον, ἐς αἰθέρα δ' ἄχρι φορεῖται.  
καὶ χρύσειον περὶ νῶτα φαρέτριον, ἔνδοθι δ' ἐντὶ  
τοῖς πικροῖς κάλαμοι, τοῖς πολλάκι καμὲ τιτρώσκει.  
πάντα μὲν ἄγρια ταῦτα· πολὺ πλέον ἅ δαίς<sup>1</sup> αὐτῶ·  
βαιὰ λαμπὰς εἴοισα τὸν ἄλιον αὐτὸν ἀναίθει.

ἦν τὺ γ' ἔλῃς τήνουν, δήσας ἄγε μῆδ' ἐλεήσης.  
κῆν ποτίδης κλαίοντα, φυλάσσεο μὴ σε πλανάσῃ.  
κῆν γελάῃ, τὺ νιν ἔλκε. καὶ ἦν ἐθέλῃ σε φιλήσῃ,  
φεύγε· κακὸν τὸ φίλημα, τὰ χεῖλεα φάρμακον ἐντί.  
ἦν δὲ λέγῃ 'λάβε ταῦτα, χαρίζομαι ὅσσα μοι ὄπλα,'  
μὴ τὸν θίγῃς πλάνη δῶρα· τὰ γὰρ πυρὶ πάντα  
βέβαπται."

<sup>1</sup> πλέον ἅ δαίς Wil. mss πλέον δ' αἰ or πλεῖον δέ οἱ

30 αἰαὶ καὶ τὸ σῖδαρον, ὃ τὸν πυρόεντα καθέξει This line, which can hardly belong here, is omitted by some of the mss

MOSCHUS I, 19-29

but a small arrow but carries even to the sky. And at his back is a little golden quiver, but in it lie the keen shafts with which he oftentimes woundeth e'en me. And cruel though all this equipage be, he hath something crueller far, his torch; 'tis a little light, but can set the very Sun afire.

Let any that shall take him bind and bring him and never pity. If he see him weeping, let him have a care lest he be deceived, if laughing, let him still hale him along; but if making to kiss him, let him flee him, for his kiss is an ill kiss and his lips poison; and if he say 'Here, take these things, you are welcome to all my armour,' then let him not touch those mischievous gifts, for they are all dipped in fire."

## II.—EUROPA

MOSCHUS tells in Epic verse how the virgin *Eunopa*, after dreaming of a struggle between the two continents for the possession of her, was carried off from among her companions by Zeus in the form of a bull, and borne across the sea from Tyre to Crete, there to become his bride. The earlier half of the poem contains a description of *Eunopa's* flower-basket. It bears three pictures in inlaid metal—Io crossing the sea to Egypt in the shape of a heifer, Zeus restoring her there by a touch to human form, and the birth of the peacock from the blood of *Argus* slain.

## II —ΕΥΡΩΠΗ

Εὐρώπη ποτὲ Κύπρις ἐπὶ γλυκὺν ἦκεν ὄνειρον,  
 νυκτὸς ὅτε τρίτατον<sup>1</sup> λάχος ἴσταται, ἐγγύθι δ' ἡώς,  
 ὕπνος ὅτε γλυκίων μέλιτος βλεφάροισιν ἐφίζων  
 λυσιμελὲς πεδάα μαλακῶ κατὰ φύεα δεσμῶ,  
 εὔτε καὶ ἀτρεκέων ποιμαίνεται ἔθνος ὀνείρων·  
 τῆμος ὑπωροφίοισιν ἐνὶ κνώσσουσα δόμοισι  
 Φοίνικος θυγάτηρ ἔτι παρθένος Εὐρώπεια  
 ὠίσατ' ἠπείρους δοιας περὶ εἶο μάχεσθαι,  
 ἄσσιον<sup>2</sup> ἀντιπέρην τε· φυὴν δ' ἔχον οἶα γυναιῖκες  
 τῶν δ' ἥ μὲν ξείνης μορφὴν ἔχεν, ἥ δ' ἄρ' ἐώκει  
 ἐνδαπίη, καὶ μᾶλλον ἐῆς περισχέτο κούρης,  
 φάσκεν δ' ὥς μιν ἔτικτε καὶ ὥς ἀτίτηλέ μιν αὐτή.  
 ἥ δ' ἑτέρη κρατερῇσι βιωμένη παλάμῃσιν  
 εἵρυεν οὐκ ἀέκουσαν, ἐπεὶ φάτο μόρσιμον εἶο<sup>3</sup>  
 ἐκ Διὸς αἰγιόχου γέρας ἔμμεναι Εὐρώπειαν.  
 ἥ δ' ἀπὸ μὲν στρωτῶν λεχέων θόρε δειμαίνουσα,  
 παλλομένη κραδίην· τὸ γὰρ ὥς ὕπαρ εἶδεν ὄνειρον.  
 ἐξομένη δ' ἐπὶ δηρὸν ἀκὴν ἔχεν, ἀμφοτέρας δὲ  
 εἰσέτι πεπταμένοισιν ἐν ὄμμασιν εἶχε γυναιῖκας.  
 ὀψὲ δὲ δειμαλέην ἀνενείκατο παρθένον<sup>4</sup> αὐδὴν·  
 “ τίς μοι τοιάδε φάσματ' ἐπουρανίων προΐηλεν;

<sup>1</sup> τρίτατον Musurus. mss τρίτον      <sup>2</sup> ἄσσιον = ἄσσον, called  
 Doric by Eustath 1643 32; ἀντιπέρην cannot = τὴν ἀντ Ε:



## II.—EUROPA

ONCE upon a time Europa had of the Cyprian a delightful dream 'Twas the third watch o' the night when 'tis nigh dawn and the Looser of Limbs is come down honey-sweet upon the eyelids for to hold our twin light in gentle bondage, 'twas at that hour which is the outgoing time of the flock of true dreams, that whenas Phoenix' daughter the maid Europa slept in her bower under the roof, she dreamt that two lands near and far strove with one another for the possession of her. Their guise was the guise of women, and the one had the look of an outland wife and the other was like to the dames of her own country. Now this other clave very vehemently to her damsel, saying she was the mother that bare and nursed her, but the outland woman laid violent hands upon her and haled her away; nor went she altogether unwilling, for she that haled her said: "The Aegis-Bearer hath ordained thee to be mine." Then leapt Europa in fear from the bed of her lying, and her heart went pit-a-pat; for she had had a dream as it were a waking vision. And sitting down she was long silent, the two women yet before her waking eyes. At last she raised her maiden voice in accents of terror, saying: "Who of the People of Heaven did send me forth such phantoms as these?"

mss ἄσσαν, ἀσίδα τ', ἄσσαδ', ἀσιάδ'  
 1 δειμαλένη; mss also δὴ μάλ' ἔπειτ'

3 εἶλο Ahr: mss εἶναι  
 παρθένον. mss also -os

ποιοί με στρωτῶν λεχέων ὑπερ ἐν θαλάμοισιν  
 ἡδὺ μάλα κνώσσουσαν ἀνεπτοίησαν ὄνειροι,  
 τίς δ' ἦν ἡ ξείνη, τὴν εἰσίδον ὑπνώουσα;  
 ὥς μ' ἔλαβε κραδίην κείνης πόθος, ὥς με καὶ αὐτὴ  
 ἀσπασίως ὑπέδεκτο καὶ ὥς σφετέρην ἴδε παῖδα.  
 ἀλλὰ μοι εἰς ἀγαθὸν μάκαρες κρήνεια<sup>1</sup> ὄνειρον.”

ὥς εἰποῦς' ἀνόρουσε, φίλας δ' ἐπεδίξεθ' ἑταίρας  
 ἡλικας οἰέτεας θυμῆρας εὐπατερείας,  
 τῆσι αἰὲ συνάθρυεν, ὅτ' ἐς χορὸν ἐντύνουτο,<sup>2</sup>  
 ἢ ὅτε φαιδρύνουτο<sup>3</sup> χροῶ προχοῇσιν ἀναύρων,  
 ἢ ὅπότε ἐκ λειμῶνος εὐπνοα λείρι' ἀμέργοι.  
 αἱ δέ οἱ αἰψα φάανθεν· ἔχον δ' ἐν χερσὶν ἐκάστη  
 ἀνθοδόκον τάλαρον· ποτὶ δὲ λειμῶνας ἔβαινον  
 ἀγχιάλους, ὅθι τ' αἰὲν ὁμιλαδὸν ἡγερέθοντο  
 τερπόμεναι ῥοδέῃ τε φυῇ καὶ κύματος ἡχῇ.

αὐτὴ δὲ χρύσειον τάλαρον φέρεν Εὐρώπεια,  
 θηητόν, μέγα θαῦμα, μέγαν πόνον Ἡφαίστοιο,  
 ὃν Λιβύῃ πόρε δῶρον, ὅτ' ἐς λέχος Ἐννοσιγαίου  
 ἦεν· ἡ δὲ πόρεν περικαλλεῖ Τηλεφάασση,  
 ἥτε οἱ αἵματος ἔσκεν· ἀνύμφῃ δ' Εὐρώπείῃ  
 μήτηρ Τηλεφάασσα περικλυτὸν ὥπασε δῶρον.

ἐν τῷ δαίδαλα πολλὰ τετεύχατο μαρμαίροντα.  
 ἐν μὲν ἔην χρυσοῖο τετυγμένη Ἰναχὶς Ἰώ,  
 εἰσέτι πόρτις ἐοῦσα, φυὴν δ' οὐκ εἶχε γυναιήν.  
 φοιταλέῃ δὲ πόδεςσιν ἐφ' ἄλμυρὰ βαῖνε κέλευθα,  
 νηχομένη ἰκέλη· κυανῇ δ' ἐτέτυκτο θάλασσα.  
 δοιοὶ δ' ἔστασαν ὑψοῦ ἐπ' ὀφρύος αἰγιαλοῖο

<sup>1</sup> κρήνεια Wakefield. mss κρίνεια <sup>2</sup> ἐντύνουτο Wil mss  
 -οντο, -αινο, -αιτο <sup>3</sup> mss also φαιδρύνουτο

## MOSCHUS II, 22-48

What meant the strange dreams that did affray me in that most sweet slumber I had upon the bed in my chamber? And who was the outland wife I did behold in my sleep? O how did desire possess my heart for her, and how gladly likewise did she take me to her arms and look upon me as I had been her child! I only pray the Blessed may send the dream turn out well."

So speaking she up and sought the companions that were of like age with her, born the same year and of high degree, the maidens she delighted in and was wont to play with, whether there were dancing afoot or the washing of a bright fair body at the outpourings of the water-brooks, or the cropping of odorous lily-flowers in the mead. Forthwith were they before her sight, bound flower-baskets in hand for the longshore meadows, there to foregather as was their wont and take their pleasure with the springing roses and the sound of the waves.

Now Europa's basket was of gold, an admirable thing, a great marvel and a great work of Hephaestus, given of him unto Libya the day the Earth-Shaker took her to his bed, and given of Libya unto the fair beauteous Telephassa because she was one of her own blood; and so the virgin Europa came to possess the renowned gift, being Telephassa was her mother.

And in this basket were wrought many shining pieces of cunning work. Therein first was wrought the daughter of Inachus, in the guise of a heifer yet, passing wide over the briny ways by labour of her feet like one swimming, and the sea was wrought of blue lacquer; and high upon the cliff-brow stood two

"daughter of Inachus". Io.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

φῶτες ἀολλήδην, θηεῦντο δὲ ποντοπόρου βοῦν.  
 ἐν δ' ἦν Ζεὺς Κρονίδης ἐπαφώμενος ἡρέμα χερσὶ<sup>1</sup>  
 πόρτιος Ἰναχίης, τὴν<sup>2</sup> δ' ἐπταπόρῳ παρὰ Νείλῳ  
 ἐκ βοδὸς εὐκεράοιο πάλιν μετάμειβε γυναῖκα.  
 ἀργύρεος μὲν ἔην Νείλου ῥόος, ἥ δ' ἄρα πόρτις  
 χαλκείη, χρυσοῦ δὲ τετυγμένος αὐτὸς ἔην Ζεὺς.  
 ἀμφὶ δὲ δινηέντος ὑπὸ στεφάνῃν ταλάροιο  
 Ἑρμείης ἤσκητο· πέλας δέ οἱ ἐκτετάνυστο  
 Ἄργος ἀκοιμήτοισι κεκασμένος ὀφθαλμοῖσι.  
 τοῖο δὲ φοινήεντος ἀφ' αἵματος ἐξανέτελλεν  
 ὄρνις ἀγαλλόμενος πτερύγων πολυανθείῃ χροιῇ,  
 ταρσὸν ἀναπλώσας ὥσειτε τις ὠκύαλος νηῦς·  
 χρυσείου ταλάροιο περίσκεπε χεῖλεα ταρσός.<sup>3</sup>  
 τοίος ἔην τάλαιρος περικαλλέος Εὐρωπείης.

αἰ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν λειμώνας ἐς ἀνθεμόεντας ἵκανον,<sup>4</sup>  
 ἄλλῃ ἐπ' ἀλλοίοισι τότ' ἀνθεσι θυμὸν ἔτερπον.  
 τῶν ἥ μὲν νάρκισσον εὐπνοον, ἥ δ' ὑάκινθον,  
 ἥ δ' ἴον, ἥ δ' ἔρπυλλον ἀπαίνυτο· πολλὰ δ' ἔραζε  
 λειμώνων ἑαροτρεφέων θαλέθεσκε πέτηλα.  
 αἰ δ' αὖτε ξανθοῖο κρόκου θυόεσσαν ἔθειραν  
 δρέπτον ἐριδμαίνουσai, ἀτὰρ μεσσίστη<sup>5</sup> ἄνασσα  
 ἀγλαίην πυρσοῖο ῥόδου χεῖρεσσι λέγουσα,  
 οἶά περ ἐν Χαρίτεσσι διέπρεπεν Ἀφρογένηα.  
 οὐ μὴν δηρὸν ἔμελλεν ἐπ' ἀνθεσι θυμὸν ἰαίνειν,  
 οὐδ' ἄρα παρθευίην μίτρην ἄχραντον ἔρυσθαι.  
 ἦ γὰρ δὴ Κρονίδης ὥς μιν φράσαθ', ὥς ἐόλητο

<sup>1</sup> mss also Z. ἐπ. ἡρ. χερσὶ θεεῖη    <sup>2</sup> Ἰναχίης· τὴν Pierson  
 mss εἰναλῆς τὴν or εἶναι ληϊστήν    <sup>3</sup> ταρσός Wil mss  
 -οῖς    <sup>4</sup> mss also ἐσήλυθον ἀνθεμόεντας    <sup>5</sup> μεσσίστη E,

## MOSCHUS II, 49-74

men together and watched the sea-going heifer. Therein for the second piece was the Son of Cronus gently touching the same heifer of Inachus beside the seven-streamed Nile, and so transfiguring the hoinèd creature to a woman again; and the flowing Nile was of silver wrought, and the heifer of brass, and the great Zeus of gold. And beneath the rim of the rounded basket was Hermes fashioned, and beside him lay outstretched that Argus which surpassed all others in ever-waking eyes; and from the purple blood of him came a bird uprising in the pride of the flowery hues of his plumage, and unfolding his tail like the sails of a speeding ship till all the lip of the golden basket was covered with the same. Such was this basket of the fair beauteous Europa's.

Now when these damsels were got to the blossomy meads, they waxed merry one over this flower, another over that. This would have the odorous daffodil, that the flower-de-luce; here 'twas the violet, there the thyme: for right many were the flowerets of the lusty springtime budded and bloomed upon that ground. Then all the band fell a-plucking the spicy tresses of the yellow saffron, to see who could pluck the most; only their queen in the midst of them culled the glory and delight of the red red rose, and was pre-eminent among them even as the Child o' the Foam among the Graces.

Howbeit not for long was she to take her pleasure with the flowers, nor yet to keep her maiden girdle undefiled. For, mark you, no sooner did the Son of

cf. μέστος, νέστος, τρίτος. MSS μέσσοισιν μέσσησιν, μέση ἔστη

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

θυμὸν ἀνώιστοισιν ὑποδμηθεὶς βελέεσσι  
 Κύπριδος, ἥ μούνη δύναται καὶ Ζῆνα δαμάσσαι.  
 δὴ γὰρ ἀλευόμενός τε χόλον ζηλήμονος Ἥρης  
 παρθενικῆς τ' ἐθέλων ἀταλὸν νόον ἐξαπατήσαι  
 κρύψε θεὸν καὶ τρέψε δέμας καὶ γέινετο ταῦρος,  
 οὐχ οἶος σταθμοῖς ἐνιφέρβεται, οὐδὲ μὲν οἶος  
 ὦλκα διατμήγει σύρων εὐκαμπὲς ἄροτρον,  
 οὐδ' οἶος ποιμνῆς ἐπιβόσκειται, οὐδὲ μὲν οἶος  
 ὅστις ὑποδμηθεὶς ἐρύει πολύφορτον ἀπήνην.  
 τοῦ δὴ τοι τὸ μὲν ἄλλο δέμας ξανθόχροον ἔσκε,  
 κύκλος δ' ἀργύφεος μέσσω μάρμαιρε μετώπῳ,  
 ὅσσε δ' ὑπογλαύσσεσκε καὶ ἵμερον ἀστράπτεσκεν.  
 ἰσά τ' ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι κέρα ἀνέτελλε καρήνου  
 ἀντυγος ἡμιτόμου κεραῆς<sup>1</sup> ἅτε κύκλα σελήνης.

ἤλυθε δ' ἐς λειμῶνα καὶ οὐκ ἐφόβησε φαανθεὶς  
 παρθενικάς, πάσῃσι δ' ἔρως γένετ' ἐγγὺς ἰκέσθαι  
 ψαῦσαι θ' ἱμερτοῖο βοός, τοῦ δ' ἄμβροτος ὀδμὴ  
 τηλόθι καὶ λειμῶνος ἐκαίνυτο λαρὸν αὐτμήν.  
 στῇ δὲ ποδῶν προπάροιθεν ἀμύμονος Εὐρώπείης,  
 καὶ οἱ λιχμάζεσκε δέρην, κατέθελγε δὲ κούρη  
 ἥ δέ μιν ἀμφαφάσσκε καὶ ἡρέμα χεῖρεσιν ἀφρὸν  
 πολλὸν ἀπὸ στομάτων ἀπομόργνυτο, καὶ κύσε  
 ταῦρον.

αὐτὰρ ὁ μελίχιον μυκήσατο· φαῖό κεν αὐλοῦ  
 Μυγδονίου γλυκὺν ἦχον ἀνηπύοντος ἀκούειν.  
 ὦκλασε δὲ πρὸ ποδοῖν, ἐδέρκετο δ' Εὐρώπειαν  
 αὐχέν' ἐπιστρέψας καὶ οἱ πλατὺν δείκνυε νῶτον.  
 ἥ δὲ βαθυπλοκάμοισι μετέννεπε παρθενικῇσι·

<sup>1</sup> miss also ἄντα κεραῖην ἡμιτόμου

## MOSCHUS II, 75-102

Cronus espy her, than his heart was troubled and brought low of a sudden shaft of the Cyprian, that is the only vanquisher of Zeus. Willing at once to escape the jealous Hera's wrath and beguile the maiden's gentle heart, he put off the god and put on the bull, not such as feedeth in the stall, nor yet such as cleaveth the furrow with his team of the bended plough, neither one that grazeth at the head of the herd, nor again that draweth in harness the laden wagon. Nay, but all his body was of a yellow hue, save that a ring of gleaming white shined in the midst of his forehead and the eyes beneath it were grey and made lightnings of desire; and the horns of his head rose equal one against the other even as if one should cleave in two rounded cantles the rim of the horned Moon.

So came he into that meadow without affraying those maidens; and they were straightway taken with a desire to come near and touch the lovely ox, whose divine fragrance came so far and outdid even the delightful odour of that breathing meadow. There went he then and stood afore the spotless may Europa, and for to cast his spell upon her began to lick her pretty neck. Whereat she fell to touching and toying, and did wipe gently away the foam that was thick upon his mouth, till at last there went a kiss from a maid unto a bull. Then he lowed, and so moving-softly you would deem it was the sweet cry of the flute of Mygdony, and kneeling at Europa's feet, turned about his head and beckoned her with a look to his great wide back.

At that she up and spake among those pretty

"Mygdony". Phrygia, whence the flute was supposed to have come with the worship of Dionysus.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

‘δεῦθ’ ἐτάραι φίλλαι καὶ ὁμήλικες, ὄφρ’ ἐπὶ τῷδε  
ἐζόμεναι ταύρῳ τερπώμεθα· δὴ γὰρ ἀπάσας  
νῶτον ὑποστορέσας ἀναδέξεται, οἷά τ’ ἐνῆς  
πρηγῆς τ’ εἰσιδέειν καὶ μείλιχος, οὐδέ τι ταύροις  
ἄλλοισι προσέοικε· νόος δέ οἱ ἤντε φωτὸς  
αἴσιμος ἀμφιθέει, μούνης δ’ ἐπιδεύεται αὐδῆς.’

ὥς φαμένη νώτοισιν ἐφίζανε μειδιώσα,  
αἱ δ’ ἄλλαι μέλλεσκον. ἄφαρ δ’ ἀνεπήλατο  
ταῦρος,

ἦν θέλεν ἀρπάξας· ὠκὺς δ’ ἐπὶ πόντον ἵκανε.  
ἦ δὲ μεταστρεφθεῖσα φίλας καλέεσκεν ἐταῖρας  
χεῖρας ὀρεγνυμένη, ταὶ δ’ οὐκ ἐδύναντο κιχάνειν.  
ἄκτάων δ’ ἐπιβὰς πρόσσω θέεν ἤντε δελφίς  
χηλαῖς ἀβρεκτοῖσιν ἐπ’ εὐρέα κύματα βαίνων.

ἦ δὲ τότε ἔρχομένοιο γαληνιάσκει θάλασσα,  
κήτεα δ’ ἀμφὶς ἀταλλε Διὸς προπάροιθε ποδοῖν,  
γηθόσυνος δ’ ὑπὲρ οἶδμα κυβίστεε βυσσόθε  
δελφίς·

Νηρείδες δ’ ἀνέδυσαν ὑπὲξ ἁλός, αἱ δ’ ἄρα πᾶσαι  
κητείοις νώτοισιν ἐφήμεναι ἐστιχόωντο.  
καὶ δ’ αὐτὸς βαρύδουπος ὑπεῖραλος<sup>1</sup> Ἐννοσίγαιος  
κῦμα κατιθύνων ἀλῆης ἡγεῖτο κελεύθου  
αὐτοκασιγνήτῳ· τοὶ δ’ ἀμφὶ μιν ἡγερέθοντο  
Τρίτωνες, πόντοιο βαρύθροοι<sup>2</sup> αὐλητῆρες,  
κόχλοισιν ταναοῖς γάμιον μέλος ἡπύοντες.  
ἦ δ’ ἄρ’ ἐφεζομένη Ζηνὸς βοέοις ἐπὶ νώτοις  
τῇ μὲν ἔχεν ταύρου δολιχὸν κέρας, ἐν χερὶ δ’ ἄλλη  
εἴρνε πορφυρέην κολποῦ πτύχα,<sup>3</sup> ὄφρα κε μὴ μιν  
δεῦοι ἐφελκόμενον πολιῆς ἁλὸς ἄσπετον ὕδωρ.

<sup>1</sup> ὑπεῖραλος E, cf. ὑπεῖραλος and *Il* 23, 227 ὑπεῖρ ἄλα· mss  
ὑπεῖρ ἁλὸς or ὑπεῖρ ἄλα <sup>2</sup> mss also βαθύθροοι αὐλ mss  
also ἐνναετήρες <sup>3</sup> mss also πορφυρέας and πτύχας



## MOSCHUS II, 103-128

curly-pates saying "Come away, dear my fellows and my feres; let's ride for a merry sport upon this bull For sure he will take us all upon his bowed back, so meek he looks and mild, so kind and so gentle, nothing resembling other bulls; moreover an understanding moveth over him meet as a man's, and all he lacks is speech." So saying, she sat her down smiling upon his back, and the rest would have sate them likewise, but suddenly the bull, possessed of his desire, leapt up and made hot-foot for the sea. Then did the rapt Europa turn her about and stretch forth her hands and call upon her dear companions; but nay, they might not come at her, and the sea-shore reached, 'twas still forward, forward till he was faring over the wide waves with hooves as unharmed of the water as the fins of any dolphin.

And lo! the sea waxed calm, the sea-beasts frolicked afore great Zeus, the dolphins made joyful ups and tumblings over the surge, and the Nereids rose from the brine and mounting the sea-beasts rode all a-row And before them all that great rumbling sea-lord the Earth-Shaker played pilot of the briny pathway to that his brother, and the Tritons gathering about him took their long taper shells and sounded the marriage-music like some clauioners of the main. Meanwhile Europa, seated on the back of Zeus the Bull, held with one hand to his great horn and caught up with the other the long purple fold of her robe, lest trailing it should be wet in the untold waters of the hoar brine; and the robe

"unharmed of the water" the salt water was supposed to rot the hoofs of oxen.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κολπώθη δ' ὥμοισι πέπλος βαθὺς Εὐρωπείης,  
ἰστίον οἶά τε νηός, ἐλαφρίζεσκε δὲ κούρην.

ἦ δ' ὅτε δὴ γαίης ἀπὸ πατρίδος ἦεν ἀνευθεν,  
φαίνεται δ' οὐτ' ἀκτὴ τις ἀλῖρροθος οὐτ' ὄρος αἰπύ,  
ἀλλ' ἄηρ μὲν ἄνωθεν, ἔνερθε δὲ πόντος ἀπείρων,  
ἀμφὶ ἐπαπτήνασα τόσην ἀνευεῖκατο φωνήν·

πῇ με φέρεις θεόταυρε, τίς ἔπλεο; πῶς δὲ κέ-  
λευθα

ἀργαλέ<sup>1</sup> εἰλιπόδεσσι<sup>1</sup> διέρχεαι, οὐδὲ θάλασσαν  
δαιμαίνεις; νηυσὶν γὰρ ἐπιδρομός ἐστι θάλασσα  
ὠκυάλοις, ταῦροι δ' ἄλιν τρομέουσιν ἀταρπόν.  
ποῖόν τοι ποτὸν ἡδύ; τίς ἐξ ἁλὸς ἔσσειτ' ἐδωδή;  
ἦ ἄρα τις θεός ἐσσι· θεοῖς γ' <sup>2</sup> ἐπεικότα ῥέζεις.  
οὐθ' ἄλλιοι δελφῖνες ἐπὶ χθονὸς οὔτε τι ταῦροι  
ἐν πόντῳ στιχώωσι, σὺ δὲ χθόνα καὶ κατὰ πόντον  
ἄτρομος<sup>3</sup> αἰσσεις, χηλαὶ δὲ τοί εἰσιν ἐρετμά.  
ἦ τάχα καὶ γλαυκῆς ὑπὲρ ἡέρος ὑψός<sup>4</sup> ἀερθεῖς  
εἵκελος αἰψηροῖσι πετήσσαι οἰωνοῖσιν.  
ὦμοι ἐγὼ μέγα δὴ τι δυσάμμορος, ἦ ῥά τε δῶμα  
πατρὸς ἀποπρολιπούσα καὶ ἐσπομένη βοὶ τῷδε  
ξείνῃ νηυτιλίῃ ἐφέπω καὶ πλάζομαι οἴῃ.  
ἀλλὰ σύ μοι μεδέων πολιῆς ἁλὸς Ἑννοσίγαιε  
ἵλαος ἀντιάσεις, ὃν ἔλπομαι εἰσοράασθαι  
τόνδε κατιθύνοντα πόρον προκέλευθον ἐμεῖο.  
οὐκ ἀθεεὶ γὰρ ταῦτα διέρχομαι ὑγρὰ κέλευθα.<sup>5</sup>

ὥς φάτο· τὴν δ' ὧδε προσεφώνεεν ἠΰκερως<sup>4</sup> βοῦς·  
'θάρσει παρθενική, μὴ δείδιθι πόντιον οἶδμα.  
αὐτός τοι Ζεὺς εἰμι, καὶ <sup>5</sup> ἐγγύθεν εἶδομαι εἶναι  
ταῦρος· ἐπεὶ δύναμαί γε φανήμεναι ὅττι θέλωμι.

<sup>1</sup> thus Ahr: mss κέλευθον ἀργαλέην (or -λέοισι) πόδεσσι

<sup>2</sup> γ' E. mss δ'

<sup>3</sup> mss also ἄβροχος, cf. 114

<sup>4</sup> mss also

εὐρύκερως

<sup>5</sup> καὶ Meineke: mss καὶ

## MOSCHUS II, 129-156

went bosoming deep at the shoulder like the sail of a ship, and made that fair burden light indeed.

When she was now far come from the land of her fathers, and could see neither wave-beat shore nor mountain-top, but only sky above and sea without end below, she gazed about her and lift up her voice saying: "Whither away with me, thou god-like bull? And who art thou, and how come undaunted where is so ill going for shambling oxen? Troth, 'tis for the speeding ship to course o' the sea, and bulls do shun the paths of the brine. What water is here thou canst drink? What food shalt thou get thee of the sea? Nay, 'tis plain thou art a God; only a God would do as thou doest. For bulls go no more on the sea than the dolphins of the wave on the land; but as for you, land and sea is all one for your travelling, your hooves are oars to you. It may well be you will soar above the the gray mists and fly like a bird on the wing. Alas and well-a-day that I left my home and followed this ox to go so strange a sea-faring and so lonesome! O be kind good Lord of the hoar sea—for methinks I see thee yonder piloting me on this way—, great Earth-Shaker, be kind and come hither to help me; for sure there's a divinity in this my journey upon the ways of the waters."

So far the maid, when the hornèd ox upspake and said: "Be of good cheer, sweet virgin, and never thou fear the billows. 'Tis Zeus himself that speaketh, though to the sight he seem a bull; for I can put on what semblance soever I will. And 'tis love of

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

σὸς δὲ πόθος μ' ἀνέηκε τόσῃν ἄλα μετρήσασθαι  
ταύρω ἐειδόμενον· Κρήτη δέ σε δέξεται ἤδη,  
ἧ μ' ἔθρεψε καὶ αὐτόν, ὅπη νυμφήια σείο  
ἔσσεται· ἐξ ἐμέθεν δὲ κλυτοὺς φιλύσαι υἷας,  
οἳ σκηπτοῦχοι ἄνακτες ἐπὶ χθονίοισιν ἔσονται.  
ὥς φάτο· καὶ τετέλεστο τά περ φάτο· φαίνεται  
μὲν δὴ  
Κρήτη, Ζεὺς δὲ πάλιν σφετέρην ἀνελάζετο μορφήν,  
λῦσε δέ οἱ μίτρην, καὶ οἱ λέχος ἔντυον ὦραι.  
ἧ δὲ πάρος κούρη Ζηνὸς γένετ' αὐτίκα νύμφη,  
καὶ Κρονίδῃ τέκνα τίκτε καὶ αὐτίκα γίγνεται μήτηρ.

MOSCHUS II, 157-166

thee hath brought me to make so far a sea-course  
in a bull's likeness; and ere 'tis long thou shalt be  
in Crete, that was my nurse when I was with her;  
and there shall thy wedding be, whereof shall spring  
famous children who shall all be kings among them  
that are in the earth "

So spake he, and lo! what he spake was done;  
for appear it did, the Cretan country, and Zeus  
took on once more his own proper shape, and upon  
a bed made him of the Seasons unloosed her  
maiden girdle And so it was that she that before  
was a virgin became straightway the bride of Zeus,  
and thereafter straightway too a mother of children  
unto the Son of Cronus.



### III.—THE LAMENT FOR BION

*THIS poem seems to have been suggested by Bion's own Lament for Adonis; in form it closely resembles the Song of Thyrsis. The writer was a pupil of Bion, and hailed from Southern Italy, but is otherwise unknown.*

### III.—ΕΠΙΤΑΦΙΟΣ ΒΙΩΝΟΣ

Αἶλινά μοι στοναχεῖτε νάπαι καὶ Δώριον ὕδωρ,  
καὶ ποταμοὶ κλαίετε τὸν ἡμερόεντα Βίωνα.  
νῦν φυτά μοι μύρεσθε, καὶ ἄλσεα νῦν γοῳοισθε,  
ἄνθεα νῦν στυμνοῖσιν<sup>1</sup> ἀποπνεύετε κορύμβοις,  
νῦν ῥόδα φοινίσσεσθε τὰ πένθιμα, νῦν ἀνεμώναι,  
νῦν ὑάκινθε λάλει τὰ σὰ γράμματα καὶ πλέον αἰαῖ  
βάμβανε<sup>2</sup> τοῖς πετάλοισι· καλὸς τέθνακε μελικτάς.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
ἀδόνες αἱ πυκινοῖσιν ὀδυρόμεναι ποτὶ φύλλοις,  
νάμασι τοῖς Σικελοῖς ἀγγείλατε τᾶς Ἀρεθοίσας,  
ὅττι Βίων τέθνακεν ὁ βουκόλος, ὅττι σὺν αὐτῷ  
καὶ τὸ μέλος τέθνακε καὶ ὤλετο Δωρὶς αἰοιδά.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
Στρυμόνιοι μύρεσθε παρ' ὕδασιν αἶλινα κύκνοι,  
καὶ γοεροῖς στομάτεσσι μελίσδετε πένθιμον ῥῶδαν,  
οἷαν ὑμετέροις ποτὶ χεῖλεσι γῆρας ἀεῖδει,<sup>3</sup>  
εἶπατε δ' αὖ κούραις Οἰαγρίσιν, εἶπατε πάσαις  
Βιστονίαις Νύμφαισιν “ἀπώλετο Δώριος Ὀρφεύς.”  
ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.

<sup>1</sup> στυμνοῖσιν E, cf Bion 1 74 mss στυγν  
Bion 6 9 mss λάμβανε <sup>2</sup> βάμβανε, cf.  
ζειδε <sup>3</sup> γῆρας ἀεῖδει Wil mss γῆρυσ



### III—THE LAMENT FOR BION

CRY me waly upon him, you glades of the woods, and waly, sweet Dorian water; you rivers, weep I pray you for the lovely and delightful Bion. Lament you now, good orchards; gentle groves, make you your moan; be your breathing clusters, ye flowers, dishevelled for grief. Pray roses, now be your redness sorrow, and yours sorrow, windflowers; speak now thy writing, dear flower-de-luce, loud let thy blossoms babble ay; the beautiful musician is dead.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses*

You nightingales that complain in the thick leafage, tell to Arethusa's fountain of Sicily that neatherd Bion is dead, and with him dead is music, and gone with him likewise the Dorian poesy.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

Be it waly with you, Strymon swans, by the water-side, with voice of moaning uplift you such a song of sorrow as old age singeth from your throats, and say to the Oeagrian damsels and eke to all the Bistonian Nymphs "The Dorian Orpheus is dead."

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

"flower-de-luce". the petals of the lily were said to bear the letters AI, "alas" "Strymon" a river of Thrace, where Orpheus lived and died, swans were said to sing before their death "Oeagrian damsels" daughters of Oeagrus king of Thrace and sisters of Orpheus "Bistonian". Thracian

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

κείνος ὁ ταῖς ἀγέλαισιν ἐράσμιος οὐκέτι μέλπει,  
οὐκέτ' ἐρημαίαισιν ὑπὸ δρυσὶν ἤμενος ᾄδει,  
ἀλλὰ παρὰ Πλουτῇ μέλος Ληθαῖον αἰεῖδει.  
ᾠρεα δ' ἐστὶν ἄφωνα, καὶ αἱ βόες αἱ ποτὶ ταύροις  
πλαζόμεναι γοᾶντι καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλονται νέμεσθαι

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
σεῖο Βίων ἔκλαυσε ταχὺν μόρον αὐτὸς Ἀπόλλων,  
καὶ Σάτυροι μύροντο μελάγχλαινοί τε Πρίηποι·  
καὶ Πᾶνες στοναχεῦντο<sup>1</sup> τὸ σὸν μέλος, αἷ τε καθ'  
ῦλαν

Κρανίδες ὠδύραντο, καὶ ὕδατα δάκρυα γέντο.  
Ἀχῶ δ' ἐν πέτραισιν ὠδύρεται, ὅττι σιωπῇ  
κουκέτι μιμεῖται τὰ σὰ χεῖλεα. σῶ δ' ἐπ' ὀλέθρῳ  
δένδρεα καρπὸν ἔριψε, τὰ δ' ἄνθεα πάντ' ἐμαράνθη.  
μάλων οὐκ ἔρρευσεν καλὸν γλῆγος, οὐ μέλι σίμβλων,  
κάτθανε δ' ἐν κηρῷ λυπεύμενον· οὐκέτι γὰρ δεῖ  
τῷ μέλιτος τῷ σῶ τεθνακότος αὐτὸ τρυγᾶσθαι.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
οὐτόσον εἰναλίσαι παρ' Ἀόσι μύρατο Σειρήν,<sup>2</sup>  
οὐδὲ τόσον ποκ' ἄεισεν ἐνὶ σκοπέλοισιν Ἀηδών,  
οὐδὲ τόσον θρήνησεν ἄν' ᾠρεα μακρὰ Χελιδών,  
Ἀλκυνόος δ' οὐτόσσον ἐπ' ἄλγεσιν Ἰαχε Κῆρυξ,<sup>3</sup>  
οὐδὲ τόσον γλαυκοῖς ἐνὶ κύμασι κηρύλος ᾄδεν,

<sup>1</sup> στοναχεῦντο · mss -εῦντι    <sup>2</sup> Σειρήν Buecheler · mss σε  
(δέ, γέ) πρην or δελφίν    <sup>3</sup> Κῆρυξ Aldus mss κήρυξ

### MOSCHUS III, 20-42

He that was lovely and pleasant unto the herds  
carols now no more, sits now no more and sings  
'neath the desert oaks, but singeth in the house  
of Pluteus the song of Lethè, the song of oblivion.  
And so the hills are dumb, and the cows that wander  
with the bulls wail, and will none of their pasture.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

Your sudden end, sweet Bion, was matter of weeping even unto Apollo; the Satyrs did lament you, and every Priapus made you his moan in sable garb. Not a Pan but cried woe for your music, not a Nymph o' the spring but made her complaint of it in the wood; and all the waters became as tears. Echo, too, she mourns among the rocks that she is silent and can imitate your lips no more. For sorrow that you are lost the trees have cast their fruit on the ground, and all the flowers are withered away. The flocks have given none of their good milk, and the hives none of their honey, for the honey is perished in the comb for grief, seeing the honey of bees is no longer to be gathered now that honey of yours is done away.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

Never so woeful was the lament of the Siren upon the beach, never so woeful the song of that Nightingale among the rocks, or the dirge of that Swallow amid the long hills, neither the wail of Ceyx for the woes of that Halcyon, nor yet the Ceryl's song among

"Pan, Priapus, Satyrs, Nymphs" · the effigies of these deities which stood in the pastures "the Sirens": these were represented as half bird, half woman, and bewailed the dead lines 38-41 The references are to birds who once had human shape; see *index*.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

οὐτόσον ἀφίοισιν<sup>1</sup> ἐν ἄγκεσι παῖδα τὸν Ἀοῦς  
 ἱπτάμενος περὶ σᾶμα κινύρατο Μέμνονος ὄρνις,  
 ὅσσον ἀποφθιμένοιο κατωδύραντο Βίωνος.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 ἄδονίδες πᾶσαί τε χελιδόνες, ἃς ποκ' ἔτερπεν,  
 ἃς λαλέειν ἐδίδασκε, καθεζόμεναι ποτὶ πρέμνοις  
 ἀντίον ἀλλάλαισιν ἐκώκυον· αἱ δ' ὑπεφώνεον  
 “ὄρνιθες λυπεῖσθ' αἱ πενθάδες· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡμεῖς.”<sup>2</sup>

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 τίς ποτε σᾶ σύριγγι μελίξεται ὦ τριπόθητε;  
 τίς δ' ἐπὶ σοῖς καλάμοις θήσει στόμα; τίς θρασὺς  
 οὕτως;

εἰσέτι γὰρ πνεῖει τὰ σὰ χεῖlea καὶ τὸ σὸν ἄσθμα,  
 ἀχὰ δ' ἐν δονάκεσσι τεᾶς ἔτι<sup>3</sup> βόσκετ' ἀοιδᾶς.  
 Πανὶ φέρω τὸ μέλισμα, τάχ' ἂν καὶ κείνος ἐρεῖσαι  
 τὸ στόμα δειμαῖνοι, μὴ δεύτερα σείο φέρηται.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 κλαίει καὶ Γαλάτεια τὸ σὸν μέλος, ἂν ποκ' ἔτερπες  
 ἐξομέναν μετὰ<sup>4</sup> σείο παρ' αἰόνεσσι θαλάσσης.  
 οὐ γὰρ ἶσον Κύκλωπι μελίσδεο· τὸν μὲν ἔφενγεν  
 ἁ καλὰ Γαλάτεια, σὲ δ' ἄδιον ἔβλεπεν ἄλμας.  
 καὶ νῦν λασαμένα τῷ κύματος ἐν ψαμάθοισιν  
 ἔξετ' ἐρημαίαισι, βόας δ' ἔτι σείο νομεύει.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 πάντα τοι ὦ βούτα συγκάτθανε δῶρα τὰ Μοισᾶν,  
 παρθενικᾶν ἐρόεντα φιλήματα, χεῖlea παίδων,

<sup>1</sup> ἀφίοισιν mss also ἡώνοισιν and οἰών. <sup>2</sup> λυπεῖσθ' αἱ Ahr·  
 mss λυπεῖσθαι, -θε, -θεί γε mss also ἡμᾶς and ὑμεῖς <sup>3</sup> ἄχα  
 δ' ἐν Ahr mss ἀχεδνῆ, ἀχεδῶν, ἀχεδονεῖ ἔτι β Brunck·  
 mss ἐπιβ <sup>4</sup> μετὰ Hermann. mss παῖ α

### MOSCHUS III, 43-66

the blue waves, nay, not so woeful the hovering bird of Memnon over the tomb of the Son of the Morning in the dells of the Morning, as when they mourned for Bion dead

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

The nightingales and all the swallows, which once he delighted, which once he taught to speak, sat upon the branches and cried aloud in antiphons, and they that answered said "Lament, ye mourners, and so will we."

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

O thrice-belovèd man! who will make music upon thy pipe? Who so bold as to set lip to thy reeds? For thy lips and thy breath live yet, and in those straws the sound of thy song is quick. Shall I take and give the pipe to Pan? Nay, mayhap even he will fear to put lip to it lest he come off second to thee.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

There's Galatea, too, weeps for your music, the music that was erst her delight sitting beside you upon the strand For Cyclops' music was all another thing; she shunned him, the pretty Galatea, but she looked upon you more gladly than upon the sea. And lo' now the waves are forgotten while she sits upon the lone lone sands, but your cows she tends for you still

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

All the gifts that come of the Muses have perished, dear Neatheid, with you, the dear delightful kisses

"bird of Memnon". The tomb of Memnon, son of the Dawn and Tithonus, was visited every year by birds called Memnonidae "Galatea". Bion seems to have written a first-person pastoral resembling the *Serenade*, in which a neatherd lover of Galatea sang to her on the beach. If so, Fragment XII would seem to belong to it.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ στυμνοὶ<sup>1</sup> περὶ σῶμα τεδὸν κλαίουσιν Ἐρωτες.  
 χαὶ Κύπρις ποθέει<sup>2</sup> σε πολὺ πλέον ἢ τὸ φίλημα,  
 τὸ πρῶαν τὸν Ἄδωνιν ἀποθνήσκοντα φίλησεν.

τοῦτό τοι ὦ ποταμῶν λιγυρώτατε δεύτερον ἄλλος,  
 τοῦτο, Μέλη, νέον ἄλλος. ἀπώλετο πρᾶν τοι<sup>3</sup>

"Ομηρος,

τῆνο τὸ Καλλιόπας γλυκερὸν στόμα, καὶ σε  
 λέγουτι

μύρασθαι<sup>4</sup> καλὸν νῖα πολυκλαύτοιςι ρέεθροις,  
 πᾶσαν δ' ἐπλησας φωνᾶς ἄλλα· νῦν πάλιν ἄλλον  
 νιέα δακρύεις, καὶ νῦν δ' ἐπὶ πένθει τάκη.  
 ἀμφοτέροι παγαῖς πεφιλημένοι, ὃς μὲν ἔπινε  
 Παγασίδος κράνας, ὃ δ' ἔχεν πόμα τᾶς Ἀρεθοίσας.  
 χαὶ μὲν Τυνδαρείοιο καλὰν ἔεισε θυγάτρα  
 καὶ Θέτιδος μέγαν νῖα καὶ Ἀτρείδαν Μενέλαον·  
 τῆνος δ' οὐ πολέμους, οὐ δάκρυα, Πᾶνα δ' ἔμελλε,  
 καὶ βούτας ἐλίγαινε καὶ αἰείδων ἐνόμει,  
 καὶ σύριγγας ἔτευχε καὶ ἀδέα πόρτιν ἄμελγε,  
 καὶ παίδων ἐδίδασκε φιλήματα, καὶ τὸν Ἐρωτα  
 ἔτρεφεν ἐν κόλποισι καὶ ἤρεθε τὰν Ἀφροδίταν.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 πᾶσα Βίῳ θρηνεῖ σε κλυτὰ πόλεις, ἄστυα πάντα.  
 Ἄσκρα μὲν γοάει σε πολὺ πλέον Ἑσιόδοιο·  
 Πίνδαρον οὐ ποθέοντι τόσον Βοιωτίδες ὕλαι·  
 οὐ τόσον Ἀλκαίῳ περιμύρατο Λέσβος ἔρανον·<sup>5</sup>  
 οὐδὲ τόσον ὃν ἀοιδὸν ὀδύρατο<sup>6</sup> Τήιον ἄστυ·  
 σὲ πλέον Ἀρχιλόχοιο ποθεῖ Πάρος· ἀντὶ δὲ  
 Σαπφῶς

<sup>1</sup> στυμνοὶ E, cf Bion 1 74· mss στυγνοὶ or -δν <sup>2</sup> χαὶ Wil·  
 mss ἀ ποθέει Herm mss φιλέει <sup>3</sup> τοι: mss also ποι and  
 μοι <sup>4</sup> μύρασθαι Mein· mss -εσθαι <sup>5</sup> ἐράνον Heringa· mss  
 ἐρεννὰ, ἐρενέα, ἐρεμνὰ <sup>6</sup> ὃν Wakefield mss τὸν ὀδύρατο  
 Wakef: mss ἐμύρατο

### MOSCHUS III, 67-91

of the maidens, the sweet lips of the lads; round your corse the Loves weep all dishevelled, and Cyprus, she's fainer far of you than the kiss she gave Adonis when he died the other day.

O tunefullest of rivers, this makes thee a second grief, this, good Meles, comes thee a new woe. One melodious mouthpiece of Calliopè is long dead, and that is Homer; that lovely son of thine was mourned, 'tis said, of thy tearful flood, and all the sea was filled with the voice of thy lamentation: and lo! now thou weepest for another son, and a new sorrow melteth thee away. Both were beloved of a waterspring, for the one drank at Pegasus' fountain and the other got him drink of Arethusa; and the one sang of the lovely daughter of Tyndareus, and of the great son of Thetis, and of Atreid Menelaus; but this other's singing was neither of wars nor tears but of Pan; as a herdsman he chanted, and kept his cattle with a song; he both fashioned pipes and milked the gentle kine; he taught the lore of kisses, he made a fosterling of Love, he roused and stirred the passion of Aphrodite

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

O Bion! there's not a city, nay, not a humble town but laments thee. Askra makes far louder moan than for her Hesiod, the woods of Boeotia long not so for their Pindar; not so sore did lovely Lesbos weep for Alcaeus, nor Teos town for the poet that was hers; Paros yearns as she yearned not for Archi-

"the other day". The reference to Adonis' death is doubtless to a recent Adonis-Festival. "Meles" the river of Smyrna, birthplace of Bion and claiming to be the birthplace of Homer. "the poet that was hers". Anacreon.

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

εἰσέτι<sup>1</sup> σεῦ τὸ μέλισμα κινύρεται ἅ Μιτυλᾶνα.  
 εἰ δὲ<sup>2</sup> Συρακοσίοισι Θεόκριτος· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τοι  
 Ἀύσονικᾶς ὀδύναις μέλπω μέλος, οὐ ξένος ῥῥῆδᾶς  
 βουκολικᾶς, ἀλλ' ἄντε διδάξαι σείο μαθητὰς  
 κλαρονόμος Μοῖσας τᾶς Δωρίδος, ἧ με<sup>3</sup> γεραίρων  
 ἄλλοις μὲν τεὸν ὄλβον, ἐμοὶ δ' ἀπέλειπες ἀοιδάν.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 αἰαὶ ταὶ μαλάχαι μὲν, ἐπὰν κατὰ κᾶπον ὄλωνται,  
 ἥδὲ τὰ χλωρὰ σέλινα τό τ' εὐθαλὲς οὐλον ἄνηθον,  
 ὕστερον αὖ ζώνοντι καὶ εἰς ἔτος ἄλλο φύοντι·  
 ἄμμες δ' οἱ μεγάλοι καὶ καρτεροί, οἱ<sup>4</sup> σοφοὶ ἄνδρες,  
 ὁππότε πρᾶτα θάνωμες, ἀνάκοι ἐν χθονὶ κοίλα  
 εὐδομες εὐ μάλα μακρὸν ἀτέρμονα νήγρετον ὕπνον.  
 καὶ σὺ μὲν ὦν<sup>5</sup> σιγᾷ πεπυκασμένος ἔσσειαι ἐν γᾷ,  
 ταῖς Νύμφαισι δ' ἔδοξεν αἰετὸν βάτραχον ἄδειν.  
 ταῖς<sup>6</sup> δ' ἐγὼ οὐ φθονέοιμι· τὸ γὰρ μέλος οὐ καλὸν  
 ἄδει.

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 φάρμακον ἦλθε, Βίων, ποτὶ σὸν στόμα, φάρμακον  
 ἦδες—

τοιούτοις χεῖλεσσι ποτέδραμε κοῦκ ἐγλυκάνθη;  
 τίς δὲ βροτὸς τοσσούτον ἀνάμερος ὥς<sup>7</sup> κεράσαι τοι  
 ἢ δοῦναι καλέοντι τὸ φάρμακον;—ἐκψυγεν ῥῥῆδᾶ.<sup>8</sup>

ἄρχετε Σικελικαὶ τῷ πένθεος ἄρχετε Μοῖσαι.  
 ἀλλὰ Δίκη κίχῃ πάντας ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ πένθει τῷδε

<sup>1</sup> εἰσέτι = evermore    <sup>2</sup> εἰ δὲ Wil mss ἐν δὲ, οὐδὲ    <sup>3</sup> ἧ με  
 Briggs. mss ἄμμε, ἄμμε, ἄμμεγα    <sup>4</sup> καρτεροί, οἱ Briggs mss  
 καρτεροὶ οἱ καρτερικοὶ    <sup>5</sup> ὦν Wakef: mss ἐν    <sup>6</sup> ταῖς Wil



### MOSCHUS III, 92-114

lochos, and Mitylenè bewails thy song evermore instead of Sappho's. To Syracuse thou art a Theocritus; and as for Ausonia's mourning, 'tis the song I sing thee now; and 'tis no stranger to the pastoral poesy that sings it, neither, but an inheritor of that Dorian minstrelsy which came of thy teaching and was my portion when thou leftest others thy wealth but me thy song.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

Ay me! when the mallows and the fresh green parsley and the springing crumpled anise perish in the garden, they live yet again and grow another year; but we men that are so tall and strong and wise, soon as ever we be dead, unhearing there in a hole of the earth sleep we both sound and long a sleep that is without end or waking. And so it shall be that thou wilt lie in the earth beneath a covering of silence, albeit the little croaking frog o' the tree by ordinance of the Nymphs may sing for evermore. But they are welcome to his music for me; it is but poor music he makes.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

There came poison, sweet Bion, to thy mouth, and poison thou didst eat—O how could it approach such lips as those and not turn to sweetness? And what mortal man so barbarous and wild as to mix it for thee or give it thee at thy call?—and Song went cold and still.

*A song of woe, of woe, Sicilian Muses.*

Howbeit Justice overtaketh every man; and as for me, this song shall be my weeping sad lamentation

mss τοῖς      7 ὥς Αhr   mss ὅς or ἡ      8 ἐκφυγεν φῶδα E   mss  
ἐκφυγεν (or ἡ φύγεν) φῶδαν

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

δακρυχέων τεὸν οἶτον ὁδύρομαι. εἰ δυνάμαν δέ,  
ὥς Ὀρφεὺς καταβὰς ποτὶ Τάρταρον, ὥς ποκ'  
Ὀδυσσεύς,

ὥς πάρος Ἀλκείδας, κῆγ' ἂν ἐς δόμον ἦνθον  
Πλουτέος, ὥς κεν ἴδοιμι, καὶ εἰ Πλουτῇ μελίσδεις,  
ὥς ἂν ἀκουσαίμαν, τί μελίσδεαι. ἀλλ' ἄγε<sup>1</sup> Κώρα  
Σικελικόν τι λίγαινε καὶ ἀδύ τι βουκολιάζεν.  
καὶ κείνα Σικελά, καὶ ἐν<sup>2</sup> Αἰτναίαισιν ἔπαιζεν  
ἄόσι, καὶ μέλος οἶδε τὸ Δώριον· οὐκ ἀγέραςτος  
ἐσσεῖθ' ἂ μολπά. χῶς Ὀρφεὶ πρόσθεν ἔδωκεν  
ἀδέα φορμίζοντι παλίσσυτον Εὐρυδίκειαν,  
καὶ σὲ Βίων πέμπει τοῖς ὥρεσιν. εἰ δέ τι κῆγ' ὦν  
συρίσδων δυνάμαν, παρὰ Πλουτέϊ κ' αὐτὸς ἀειδον.

<sup>1</sup> ἀλλ' ἄγε Wil mss ἀλλὰ πᾶσα, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ, καὶ πᾶσα, καὶ  
παρὰ <sup>2</sup> καὶ : some mss omit Σικελά, καὶ ἐν Teucher. mss  
σικελικά ἐν (οἱ καὶ ἐν), σικελικαῖσιν ἐν

### MOSCHUS III, 115-126

for thy decease. Could I but have gone down into Tartarus as Orpheus went and Odysseus of yore and Alcides long ago, then would I also have come mayhap to the house of Pluteus, that I might see thee, and if so be thou singest to Pluteus, hear what that thou singest may be. But all the same, I pray thee, chant some song of Sicily, some sweet melodious country-song, unto the Maid; for she too is of Sicily, she too once sported on Etna's shores; she knows the Dorian music, so thy melodies shall not go without reward. Even as once she granted Orpheus his Eurydicè's return because he harped so sweetly, so likewise she shall give my Bion back unto the hills; and had but this my pipe the power of that his harp, I had played for this in the house of Pluteus myself

“the Maid” Persephonè, who was carried off by Pluto—here called Pluteus—when she was playing in the fields of Sicily.



#### IV-VII

*OF the remaining poems the first three are quoted by Stobaeus. The last is found in the Anthology (Anth. Plan, 4. 200), and was wrongly ascribed to Moschus owing to its mention of Europa's bull.*

#### IV

Τὰν ἄλλα τὰν γλαυκὰν ὅταν ὤνεμος ἀτρέμα βάλλῃ,  
 τὰν φρένα τὰν δειλὰν ἐρεθίζομαι, οὐδ' ἔτι μοι γὰ<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐστὶ φίλα, ποθίει δὲ πολὺ πλέον ἅ μεγάλα μ' ἄλς.<sup>2</sup>  
 ἀλλ' ὅταν ἀχήσῃ πολλὸς βυθός, ἅ δὲ θάλασσα  
 κυρτὸν ἐπαφρίζῃ, τὰ δὲ κύματα μακρὰ μεμήνῃ,  
 ἐς χθόνα παπταίνω καὶ δένδρεα, τὰν δ' ἄλλα φεύγω,  
 γὰρ δέ μοι ἀσπαστά, χαῖ δάσκιος εὐαδεν ὕλα,  
 ἔνθα καὶ ἦν πνεύσῃ πολλὺς ὤνεμος, ἅ πίτυς ἄδει.  
 ἦ κακὸν ὁ γριπεὺς ζῶει βίον, ᾧ δόμος ἅ ναῦς,  
 καὶ πόνος ἐστὶ θάλασσα, καὶ ἰχθύες ἅ πλάνος  
 ἄγρα.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ γλυκὺς ὕπνος ὑπὸ πλατάνῳ βαθυ-  
 φύλλῳ,  
 καὶ παγᾶς φιλέοιμι τὸν ἐγγύθεν ἄχον ἀκούειν,  
 ἃ τέρπει ψοφέοισα τὸν ἀγρικόν,<sup>3</sup> οὐχὶ ταράσσει.

#### V

Ἦρατο<sup>4</sup> Πὰν Ἀχῶς τᾶς γείτονος, ἦρατο δ' Ἀχῶ  
 σκιρτατᾶ Σατύρῳ, Σάτυρος δ' ἐπεμήνατο Λύδᾳ.  
 ὥς Ἀχῶ τὸν Πᾶνα, τόσον Σάτυρος φλέγεν Ἀχῶ,  
 καὶ Λύδα Σατυρίσκον· Ἔρωσ δ' ἐσμύχετ' ἀμοιβᾶ.

<sup>1</sup> μοι γὰ Bosius: mss μοῖσα    <sup>2</sup> πλέον ἅ μεγάλα μ' ἄλς E  
 mss πλέονα μεγαλὰν ἄλλα    <sup>3</sup> ἀγρικὸν Stephanus · mss ἀγροίκον  
<sup>4</sup> ἦρατο Wakef mss ἦρα

#### IV —[A COMPARISON]

WHEN the wind strikes gently upon a sea that is blue, this craven heart is roused within me, and my love of the land yields to the desire of the great waters. But when the deep waxes grey and loud, and the sea begins to swell and to foam and the waves run long and wild, then look I unto the shore and its trees and depart from the brine, then welcome is the land to me and pleasant the shady greenwood, where, be the wind never so high, the pine-tree sings her song. O 'tis ill to be a fisher with a ship for his house and the sea for his labour and the fishes for his slippery prey. Rather is it sleep beneath the leafy plane for me, and the sound hard by of a bubbling spring such as delights and not disturbs the rustic ear.

#### V —[A LESSON TO LOVERS]

PAN loved his neighbour Echo; Echo loved a frisking Satyr; and Satyr he was head over ears for Lydè As Echo was Pan's flame, so was Satyr Echo's, and Lydè master Satyr's. 'Twas Love re-

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὅσσον γὰρ τήνων τις ἐμίσσε τὸν φιλέοντα,  
τόσσον ὁμῶς φιλέων ἡχθαίρετο, πάσχε δ' ἃ ποίει.  
ταῦτα λέγω πᾶσιν τὰ διδάγματα τοῖς ἀνεράστοις·  
στέργετε τῶς φιλέοντας, ἵν' ἦν φιλήτετε φιλήσθε.

### VI

Ἄλφειὸς μετὰ Πῖσαν ἐπὴν κατὰ πόντον ὁδεύη,  
ἔρχεται εἰς Ἀρέθουσιν ἄγων κοτινηφόρον ὕδωρ,  
ἔδνα φέρων καλὰ φύλλα καὶ ἄνθεα καὶ κόνιν  
ἱράν,  
καὶ βαθὺς ἐμβαίνει τοῖς κύμασι, τὰν δὲ θάλασσαν  
νέρθεν ὑποτροχάει, κοῦ μίγνυται ὕδασιν ὕδωρ,  
ἃ δ' οὐκ οἶδε θάλασσα διερχομένῳ ποταμοῖο.  
κῶρος λινοθέτας<sup>1</sup> κακομάχανος αἰνὰ διδάσκων  
καὶ ποταμὸν διὰ φίλτρον Ἔρωσ ἐδίδαξε κολυμβήν.

### VII—Εἰς Ἐρωτα Ἀποτρίωντα

Λαμπάδα θεὸς καὶ τόξα βοηλάτιν εἴλετο ῥάβδον  
οὐλὸς Ἔρωσ, πῆρην δ' εἶχε κατωμαδίην,  
καὶ ζεύξας ταλαεργὸν ὑπὸ ζυγὸν αὐχένα ταύρων  
ἔσπειρεν Δηοῦς αὐλακα πυροφόρον.  
εἶπε δ' ἄνω βλέψας αὐτῷ Δί· ‘πλήσον ἀρούρας,  
μή σε τὸν Εὐρώπης βούν ὑπ' ἄροτρα βάλῃ.’

<sup>1</sup> λινοθέτας E, cf. Theocr 21 10 · mss δεινοθέτας



## MOSCHUS V-VII

ciprocal; for by just course, even as each of those hearts did scorn its lover, so was it also scorned being such a lover itself To all such as be heart-whole be this lesson read. If you would be loved where you be loving, then love them that love you

### VI.—[A RIVER IN LOVE]

WHEN Alpheus leaves Pisa behind him and travels by the sea, he brings Arethusa the water that makes the wild olives grow; and with a bride-gift coming, of pretty leaves and pretty flowers and sacred dust, he goeth deep into the waves and runneth his course beneath the sea, and so runneth that the two waters mingle not and the sea never knows of the rivers passing through So is it that the spell of that impish setter of nets, that sly and crafty teacher of troubles, Love, hath e'en taught a river how to dive.

### VII.—OF LOVE PLOUGHING

Love the Destroyer set down his torch and his bow, and slinging a wallet on his back, took an ox-goad in hand, yoked him a sturdy pair of steers, and fell to ploughing and sowing Demeter's cornland; and while he did so, he looked up unto great Zeus saying "Be sure thou make my harvest fat; for if thou fail me I'll have that bull of Europa's to my plough."

"sacred dust": the dust of the race-course at Olympia (Pisa).



MEGARA

## MEGARA

*THE poem gives a picture of Heracles' wife and mother at home in his house at Tiryns while he is abroad about his Labours. The two women sit weeping. The wife bewails his mad murder of their children, and gently hints that the mother might give her more sympathy in her sorrow if she would not be for ever lamenting her own. To which the kind old Alcmena replies, "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" ; but though her own anxiety for the safety of the labouring Heracles, increased now by an evil dream, is food enough, God knows, for lamentation, she feels, as indeed Megara must know full well, for her sorrowing daughter too. The poem bears a resemblance to [Theocritus] XXV, and is thought by some to belong to the same author*

## ΜΕΓΑΡΑ

“Μῆτερ ἐμή, τίφθ’ ὦδε φίλον κατὰ θυμὸν ἰάπτεις  
ἐκπάγλως ἀχέουσα, τὸ πρὶν δέ τοι οὐκέτ’ ἔρευθος  
σφάζετ’ ἐπὶ ῥεθέεσσι; τί μοι τόσον ἠνίησαι;  
ἦρ’ ὅτι ἄλγεα πάσχει ἀπείριτα φαίδιμος υἱὸς  
ἀνδρὸς ὕπ’ οὐτιδανοῖο, λέων ὡσεὶθ’ ὑπὸ νεβροῦ;  
ὦμοι ἐγὼ, τί νυ δὴ με θεοὶ τόσον ἠτίμησαν  
ἀθάνατοι; τί νύ μ’ ὦδε κακῇ γονέες τέκον αἴση;  
δύσμορος, ἦτ’ ἐπεὶ ἀνδρὸς ἀμύμονος ἐς λέχος ἦλθον,  
τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ τίεσκον ἴσον φαέεσσιν ἐμοῖσιν  
ἦδ’ ἔτι νῦν σέβομαί τε καὶ αἰδέομαι κατὰ θυμόν·  
τοῦ δ’ οὔτις γένετ’ ἄλλος ἀποτομότερος ζώντων,  
οὐδὲ τόσων σφετέρησιν ἐγεύσατο φροντίσι κηδέων.  
σχέτλιος, ὃς τόξοισιν, ἃ οἱ πόρεν αὐτὸς Ἀπόλλων  
ἠέ τινος Κηρῶν ἢ Ἐρινύος αἰνὰ βέλεμνα,  
παῖδας ἐοὺς κατέπεφνε καὶ ἐκ φίλον εἴλετο<sup>1</sup> θυμὸν  
μαινόμενος κατὰ οἶκον, ὃ δ’ ἔμπλεος ἔσκε φόνοιο.

τοὺς μὲν ἐγὼ δύστηνος ἐμοῖς ἴδον ὀφθαλμοῖσι  
βαλλομένους ὑπὸ πατρί, τὸ δ’ οὐδ’ ὄναρ ἤλυθεν  
ἄλλω.

οὐδέ σφιν δυνάμην ἀδινὸν καλέουσιν ἀρῆξαι  
μητέρ’ ἐήν, ἐπεὶ ἐγγυὺς ἀνίκητον κακὸν ἦεν.

<sup>1</sup> εἴλετο mss also ὥλεσε

## MEGARA

*Megara the wife of Heracles addresses his mother  
Alcmena*

“Mother dear, O why is thy heart cast down in this exceeding sorrow, and the rose o’ thy cheek a-withering away? What is it, sweet, hath made thee so sad? Is it because thy doughty son be given troubles innumerable of a man of nought, as a lion might be given of a fawn? O well-a-day that the Gods should have sent me this dishonour! and alas that I should have been begotten unto such an evil lot! Woe’s me that I that was bedded with a man above reproach, I that esteemed him as the light of my eyes and do render him heart’s worship and honour to this day, should have lived to see him of all the world most miserable and best acquaint with the taste of woe! O misery that the bow and arrows given him of the great Apollo should prove to be the dire shafts of a Death-Spirit or a Fury, so that he should run stark mad in his own home and slay his own children withal, should reave them of dear life and fill the house with murder and blood!

Aye, with my own miserable eyes I saw my children smitten of the hand of their father, and that no other hath so much as dreamt of And for all they cried and cried upon their mother I could not help them, so present and invincible was

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ὥς δ' ὄρνις δύρηται ἐπὶ σφετέροισι νεοσσοῖς  
 ὀλλυμένοις, οὔστ' αἰνὸς ὄφιν ἐτι νηπιάχοντας  
 θάμνοισι ἐν πυκινοῖσι κατεσθίει· ἥ δὲ κατ' αὐτοὺς  
 πωτᾶται κλάζουσα μάλα λιγὺ πότνια<sup>1</sup> μήτηρ,  
 οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔχει τέκνοισιν ἐπαρκέσαι· ἥ γάρ οἱ αὐτῇ  
 ἄσπον ἵμεν μέγα τάρβος ἀμειλίκτοιο πελώρου·  
 ὧς ἐγὼ αἰνοτόκεια φίλον γόνον αἰάζουσα  
 μαινομένοισι πόδεσσι δόμον κάτα πολλὸν ἐφοίτων.  
 ὧς γ' ὄφελον μετὰ παισὶν ἄμα θνήσκουσα καὶ  
 αὐτῇ

κεῖσθαι φαρμακόεντα δι' ἥπατος ἰὸν ἔχουσα,  
 Ἄρτεμι θηλυτέρησι μέγα κρείουσα γυναιξί.  
 τῷ χ' ἡμέας κλαύσαντε φίλησ' ἐνὶ χερσὶ τοκῆς  
 πολλοῖς σὺν κτερέεσσι πυρῆς ἐπέβησαν ὁμοίης,  
 καὶ κεν ἔνα χρύσειον ἐς ὅστέα κρωσσὸν ἀπάντων  
 λέξαντες κατέθαναν, ὅθι πρῶτον γενόμεσθα.  
 νῦν δ' οἱ μὲν Θήβην ἵπποτρόφον ἐνναίουσιν  
 Ἄουλου πεδίοιο βαθεῖαν βῶλον ἀροῦντες·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ Τίρυνθα κάτα κραναὴν πόλιν Ἥρης  
 πολλοῖσιν δύστηνος ἰάπτομαι ἄλγεσιν ἥτορ  
 αἰὲν ὁμῶς· δακρύων δὲ παρεστί μοι οὐδ' ἔ' ἔρωή.

ἀλλὰ πόσιν μὲν ὁρῶ παῦρον χρόνον ὀφθαλμοῖσιν  
 οἴκῳ ἐν ἡμετέρῳ· πολέων γάρ οἱ ἔργον ἐτοῖμον  
 μόχθων, τοὺς ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἀλώμενος ἡδὲ θάλασσαν  
 μοχθίζει πέτρης ὄγ' ἔχων νόον ἢ σιδήρου  
 καρτερὸν ἐν στήθεσσι· σὺ δ' ἡύτε λείβεαι<sup>2</sup> ὕδωρ,  
 νύκτας τε κλαίουσα καὶ ἐκ Διὸς ἡμαθ' ὀπόσσα.  
 ἄλλος μὰν οὐκ ἄν τις ἐνφρήναι με παραστάς  
 κηδεμόνων· οὐ γάρ σφε δόμων κατὰ τεῖχος ἔεργει·

<sup>1</sup> πότνια = raving E, cf. Ποτνια, ποτνιας, ποτνιάμοι <sup>2</sup> mss also λείβεται

## MEGARA, 21-48

their evil hap. But even as a bird that waileth upon her young ones' perishing when her babes be devoured one by one of a dire serpent in the thicket, and flies to and fro, the poor raving mother, screaming above her children, and cannot go near to aid them for her own great terror of that remorseless monster; even so this unhappiest of mothers that 's befoie thee did speed back and forth through all that house in a frenzy, crying woe upon her pretty brood O would to thee kind Artemis, great Queen of us poor women, would I too had fallen with a poisoned arrow in my heart and so died also! Then had my parents taken and wept over us together, and laid us with several rites on one funeral pile, and so gathered all those ashes in one golden urn and buied them in the land of our birth. But alas! they dwell in the Theban country of steeds and do till the deep loam of the Aonian lowlands, while I be in the ancient Tirynthian hold of Hera, and my heart cast down with manifold pain ever and unceasingly, and never a moment's respite from tears

For as for my husband, 'tis but a little of the time my eyes do look upon him in our home, seeing he hath so many labours to do abroad by land and sea with that brave heart of his so strong as stone or steel, and as for you, you are poured out like water, weeping the long of every day and night Zeus gives to the world: and none other of my kindred can come and play me comforter; they be no next-door neighbours, they, seeing they dwell every one



## THE BUCOLIC POETS

καὶ λίην πάντες γε πέρην πιτυώδεος Ἴσθμοῦ  
ναίουσ', οὐδέ μοί ἐστι πρὸς ὄντινά κε βλέψασα  
οἶα γυνὴ πανάποτμος ἀναψύξαιμι φίλον κῆρ,  
νόσφι γε δὴ Πύρρης συνομαίμονος· ἥ δὲ καὶ αὐτὴ  
ἀμφὶ πόσει σφετέρῳ πλέον ἄχνηται Ἴφικλῆι,  
σῶ υἱεῖ· πάντων γὰρ οἰζυρώτατα τέκνα  
γείνασθαί σε θεῶ τε καὶ ἀνέρι θνητῷ ἔολπα.”

ὥς ἄρ' ἔφη· τὰ δὲ οἱ θαλερώτερα δάκρυα μῆλων<sup>1</sup>  
κόλπον ἐς ἱμερόεντα κατὰ βλεφάρων ἐχέοντο,  
μνησαμένη τέκνων τε καὶ ὧν μετέπειτα τοκῆων.  
ὥς δ' αὐτὼς δακρύοισι παρήια λεύκ' ἐδίαινε  
Ἀλκμήνῃ· βαρὺ δ' ἦγε καὶ ἐκ θυμοῦ στενάχουσα  
μύθοισιν πυκινοῖσι φίλην νυὸν ὦδε μετηύδα·

“δαιμονίῃ παίδων, τί νύ τοι φρεσὶν ἔμπεσε τοῦτο  
πευκαλίμαις; πῶς ἄμμ' ἐθέλεις ὀροθυνέμεν ἄμφω  
κῆδ' ἄλαστα λέγουσα; τὰ δ' οὐ νῦν πρῶτα  
κέκλαυται.

ἢ οὐκ ἄλλις, οἷς ἐχόμεσθα τὸ δεύτετον αἰὲν ἐπ'  
ἡμαρ<sup>2</sup>

γινομένοις; μάλα μὲν γε φιλοθρηνῆς<sup>3</sup> κέ τις εἴη,  
ὅστις ἀριθμήσειεν ἐφ' ἡμετέροις ἀχέεσσι.

θάρσει· οὐ τοιῆσδ' ἐκυρήσαμεν ἐκ θεοῦ αἴσης.

καὶ δ' αὐτὴν ὁρώ σε φίλον τέκος ἀπρῦτοισιν  
ἄλγεσι μοχθίζουσιν. ἐπιγνώμων δέ τοι εἰμι  
ἀσχαλάαν, ὅτε δὴ γε καὶ εὐφροσύνης κόρος ἐστί·  
καὶ σε μάλ' ἐκπάγλως ὀλοφύρομαι<sup>4</sup> ἢ δ' ἐλεαίρω,  
οὐνεκεν ἡμετέριοιο λυγροῦ μετὰ δαίμονος ἔσχες,  
ὅσθ' ἡμῖν ἐφύπερθε κάρης βαρὺς αἰωρεῖται.

<sup>1</sup> cf. *Il* 17.437

<sup>2</sup> ἐπ' ἡμαρ cf. Theocr. *Inscr* 8.3

<sup>3</sup> mss also φιλοφρηνῆς

<sup>4</sup> mss also ἐποδύρομαι

## MEGARA, 49-74

of them away beyond the piny Isthmus, and so I have none to look to, such as a thrice-miserable woman needs to revive her heart—save only my sister Pynha, and she hath her own sorrow for her husband Iphicles, and he your son; for methinks never in all the world hath woman borne so ill-fated children as a God and a man did beget upon you.”

So far spake Megara, the great tears falling so big as apples into her lovely bosom, first at the thought of her children and thereafter at the thought of her father and mother. And Alcmena, she in like manner did bedew her pale wan cheeks with tears, and now fetching a deep deep sigh, spake words of wisdom unto her dear daughter :

“My poor girl,” says she, “what is come over thy prudent heart? How is it thou wilt be disquieting us both with this talk of sorrows unforgettable? Thou hast bewept them so many times before, are not the misfortunes which possess us enough each day as they come? Sure he that should fall a-counting in the midst of miseries like ours would be a very fond lover of lamentation. Be of good cheer, Heaven hath not fashioned us of such stuff as that.

And what is more, I need no telling, dear child, of thy sadness; for I can see thee before me labouring of unabating woes, and God wot I know what 'tis to be sore vexed when the very joys of life are loathsome, and I am exceeding sad and sorry thou shouldest have part in the baneful fortune that hangs us so heavy overhead For before the Maid I swear

“the misfortunes which possess us” the Greek is ‘Are not the woes which possess us, coming every latest day, enough?’

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

ἴστω γὰρ Κούρη τε καὶ εὐέανος Δημήτηρ,  
 ἄς κε μέγα βλαφθεῖς τις ἐκὼν ἐπίορκον ὁμόσσαι  
 δυσμενέων,<sup>2</sup> μηθέν σε χεριώτερον φρεσὶν ᾗσι  
 στέργειν<sup>3</sup> ἢ εἴπερ μοι ὑπὲκ νηδυιόφιν ἦλθες  
 καὶ μοι τηλυγέτη ἐνὶ δώμασι παρθένος ἦσθα.  
 οὐδ' αὐτὴν γέ νυ πάμπαν ἔολπά σε τοῦτό γε λήθειν.  
 τῷ μὴ μ' ἐξείπης ποτ', ἐμὸν θάλος, ὥς σευ ἀκηδέω,  
 μηδ' εἴ κ' ἡυκόμου Νιόβης πυκινώτερα κλαίω.  
 οὐδ' ὥς γὰρ νεμεσητὸν ὑπὲρ τέκνου γοάσθαι  
 μητέρι δυσπαθέοντος· ἐπεὶ δέκα μῆνας ἔκαμνον  
 πρὶν καὶ πέρ τ' <sup>4</sup> ἰδέειν μιν, ἐμῷ ὑπὸ ἥπατ' ἔχουσα,  
 καὶ με πυλάρταο σχεδὸν ἤγαγεν Αἰδωνῆος·  
 ὧδέ ἐ δυστοκέουσα κακὰς ὠδῖνας ἀνέτλην.  
 νῦν δέ μοι οἴχεται οἶος ἐπ' ἄλλοτρίης νέον ἄθλον  
 ἐκτελέων· οὐδ' οἶδα δυσάμμορος, εἴτῃ μιν αὖτις  
 ἐνθάδε νοστήσανθ' ὑποδέξομαι, εἴτε καὶ οὐκί.  
 πρὸς δ' ἔτι μ' ἐπτοίησε διὰ γλυκὺν αἶνὸς ὄνειρος  
 ὕπνον· δειμαίνω δὲ παλιγκοτον ὄψιν ἰδοῦσα  
 ἐκπάγλως, μὴ μοί τι τέκνοις ἀποθύμιον ἔρδοι.  
 εἶσατο γάρ μοι ἔχων μακέλην εὐεργέα χερσὶ  
 παῖς ἐμὸς ἀμφοτέρησι, βίη Ἡρακλεΐη·  
 τῇ μεγάλῃν ἐλάχαινε δεδεγμένος ὥς ἐπὶ μισθῷ  
 τάφρυν τηλεθάοντος ἐπ' ἐσχατιῇ τινος ἀγροῦ,  
 γυμνὸς ἄτερ χλαίνης τε καὶ εὐμίτροιο χιτῶνος.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπειδὴ παντὸς ἀφίκετο πρὸς τέλος ἔργου  
 καρτερόν οἰνοφόροιο πονεύμενος ἔρκος ἀλωῆς,  
 ἦτοι δ' λίστρον ἔμελλεν ἐπὶ προύχοντος<sup>5</sup> ἐρείσας  
 ἀνδρήρου καταδύναι, ἃ καὶ πάρος εἴματα ἔστο·  
 ἐξαπλῆν δ' ἀνελάμψεν ὑπὲρ καπέτοιο βαθείης

<sup>1</sup> ὁμόσσαι Brunck · mss -ση      <sup>2</sup> δυσμενέων participle  
<sup>3</sup> στέργειν syntax shifted owing to the intervention of

it, and before the robed Demeter—and any that willingly and of ill intent forswear<sup>eth</sup> these will rue it sore—I love thee no whit less than I had loved thee wert thou come of my womb and wert thou the dear only daughter of my house And of this methinks thou thyself cannot be ignorant altogether. Wherefore never say thou, sweetheart, that I heed thee not, albeit I should weep faster than the fair-tressed Niobè herself. For even such laments as hers are no shame to be made of a mother for the ill hap of a child, why, I ailed for nine months big with him or ever I so much as beheld him, and he brought me nigh unto the Porter of the Gate o' Death, so ill-bested was I in the birthpangs of him, and now he is gone away unto a new labour, alone into a foreign land, nor can I tell, more's the woe, whether he will be given me again or no

And what is more, there is come to disquiet my sweet slumber a dreiful dream, and the adverse vision makes me exceedingly afraid lest ever it work something untoward upon my children There appeared unto me, a trusty mattock grasped in both hands, my son Heracles the mighty; and with that mattock, even as one hired to labour, he was digging of a ditch along the edge of a springing field, and was without either cloak or belted jerkin And when his labouring of the strong fence of that place of vines was got all to its end, then would he stick his spade upon the pile of the earth he had digged and put on those clothes he wore before; but lo' there outshined above the deep trench a fire inextinguishable, and there rolled

δόμοσαι, cf. Theocr 12 4      <sup>4</sup> πρὶν καὶ πέρ τ' cf Il 15 588,  
Theocr 2 147      <sup>5</sup> mss also λίστρον ἐπὶ προύχοντος σπεύδεν

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

πῦρ ἄμοτον, περὶ δ' αὐτὸν ἀθέσφατος εἰλείτο φλόξ.  
 αὐτὰρ ὄγ' αἰὲν ὀπισθε θοοῖς ἀνεχάζετο ποσσίν,  
 ἐκφυγέειν μεμαῶς ὀλοὸν μένος<sup>1</sup> Ἥφαιστοιο·  
 αἰεὶ δὲ προπάροιθεν ἐοῦ χροὸς ἥντε γέρρον  
 νώμασκειν μακέλην· περὶ δ' ὄμμασιν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα  
 πάπταινεν, μὴ δὴ μιν ἐπιφλέξει δῆιον πῦρ.  
 τῷ μὲν ἀοσσῆσαι λελιημένος, ὥς μοι ἔικτο,  
 Ἴφικλέης μεγάλθυμος ἐπ' οὔδαι κάππεσ' ὀλισθὼν  
 πρὶν ἐλθεῖν, οὐδ' ὀρθὸς ἀναστῆναι δύνατ' αὐτίς,  
 ἀλλ' ἀστεμφές ἔκειτο, γέρων ὥσεϊτ' ἀμενηνός,  
 ὄντε καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλοντα βιήσατο γῆρας ἀτερπές  
 καππεσέειν· κεῖται δ' ὄγ' ἐπὶ χθονὸς ἔμπεδον  
 αὐτῶς,

εἰσόκε τις χειρὸς μιν ἀνειρύσσει παριόντων  
 αἰδεσθεῖς ὀπίδα προτέρην πολιοῖο γενείου.  
 ὥς ἐν γῇ λελίστατο σακεσπάλος Ἴφικλείης·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κλαίεσκον ἀμηχανέοντας ὁρώσα  
 παῖδας ἐμούς, μέχρι δὴ μοι ἀπέσσυτο νήδυμος  
 ὕπνος

ὀφθαλμῶν, ἥως δὲ παραυτίκα φαινόλις ἦλθε.<sup>2</sup>  
 τοῖα, φίλη, μοι ὄνειρα διὰ φρένας ἐπτοίησαν  
 παννυχίη· τὰ δὲ πάντα πρὸς Εὐρυσθήα τρέποιτο  
 οἴκου ἅψ' ἡμετέριοι, γένοιτο δὲ μάντις ἐκείνῳ  
 θυμὸς ἐμός, μηδ' ἄλλο παρὲκ τελέσειέ τι daίμων.”

<sup>1</sup> μένος mss also βέλος  
φαίνεται δῖα

<sup>2</sup> φαινόλις ἦλθε mss also φαίνεται δῖα

about him a marvellous great flame At this he went quickly backward, and so ran with intent to escape the baleful might of the God o' Fire, with his mattock ever held before his body like a buckler and his eyes turned now this way and now that, lest the consuming fire should set him alight. Then methought the noble Iphicles, willing to aid him, slipped or ever he came at him, and fell to the earth, nor could not rise up again; nay, but lay there helpless, like some poor weak old man who constrained of joyless age to fall, lieth on the ground and needs must lie, till a passenger, for the sake of the more honour of his hoary beard, take him by the hand and raise him up. So then lay targeteer Iphicles along; and as for me, I wept to behold the parlous plight of my children, till sleep the delectable was gone from my eyes, and lo! there comes me the lightsome dawn.

Such are the dreams, dear heart, have disquieted me all the night long; and I only pray they all may turn from any hurt of our house to make mischief unto Eurystheus; against him be the prophecy of my soul, and Fate ordain that, and that only, for the fulfilment of it."



## THE DEAD ADONIS





## THE DEAD ADONIS

*THIS piece of Anacreontean verse is shown both by style and metre to be of late date, and was probably incorporated in the Bucolic Collection only because of its connexion in subject with the Lament for Adonis*

## ΕΙΣ ΝΕΚΡΟΝ ΑΔΩΝΙΝ

Ἄδωνιν ἡ Κυθήρη  
 ὥς εἶδε νεκρὸν ἤδη  
 στυμνὰν<sup>1</sup> ἔχοντα χαίταν  
 ὠχράν τε τὰν παρειάν,  
 ἄγειν τὸν ἦν πρὸς αὐτὰν  
 ἔταξε τὼς Ἑρωτας.  
 οἱ δ' εὐθέως ποτανοὶ  
 πᾶσαν δραμόντες ὕλαν  
 στυγνὸν τὸν ἦν ἀνεύρου,  
 δῆσαν δὲ<sup>2</sup> καὶ πέδασαν.  
 χῶ μὲν βρόχῳ καθάψας  
 ἔσυρεν αἰχμάλωτον,  
 ὃ δ' ἐξόπισθ' ἐλαύνων  
 ἔτυπτε τοῖσι τόξοις.  
 ὁ θῆρ δ' ἔβαινε δειλῶς,  
 φοβεῖτο γὰρ Κυθήρην.  
 τῷ δ' εἶπεν Ἀφροδίτα  
 “πάντων κάκιστε θηρῶν,  
 σὺ τόνδε μηρὸν ἔψω,  
 σύ μου τὸν ἄνδρ' ἔτυψας;”  
 ὁ θῆρ δ' ἔλεξεν ὦδε·  
 “ὄμνυμί σοι Κυθήρη

<sup>1</sup> στυμνὰν B, cf. Bion l. 74 mss στυγνὰν

<sup>2</sup> δὲ Wil. mss τε

## THE DEAD ADONIS

WHEN the Cytherean saw Adonis dead, his hair dishevelled and his cheeks wan and pale, she bade the Loves go fetch her the boar, and they forthwith flew away and scoured the woods till they found the sullen boar. Then they shackled him both before and behind, and one did put a noose about the prisoner's neck and so drag him, and another belaboured him with his bow and so did drive, and the craven beast went along in abject dread of the Cytherean. Then upspoke Aphrodite, saying, "Vilest of all beasts, can it be thou that didst despite to this fair thigh, and thou that didst strike my husband?" To which the beast "I swear to thee,

## THE BUCOLIC POETS

αὐτήν σε καὶ τὸν ἄνδρα  
 καὶ ταῦτά μου τὰ δεσμὰ  
 καὶ τώσδε τὼς κυναγῶς·  
 τὸν ἄνδρα τὸν καλὸν σευ  
 οὐκ ἤθελον πατάξαι  
 ἀλλ' ὥς ἄγαλμ' ἐσεῖδον,  
 καὶ μὴ φέρων τὸ καῦμα  
 γυμνὸν τὸν εἶχε μηρὸν  
 ἐμαινόμεν φιλᾶσαι.  
 καὶ μ' εὖ κατεκσίναζε.<sup>1</sup>  
 τούτους λαβοῦσα τέμνε,  
 τούτους κόλαζε, Κύπρι·  
 τί γὰρ φέρω περισσῶς  
 ἐρωτικούς ὀδόντας;  
 εἰ δ' οὐχί σοι τὰδ' ἀρκεῖ,  
 καὶ ταῦτά μου τὰ χεῖλη.  
 τί γὰρ φιλεῖν ἐτόλμων;<sup>2</sup>  
 τὸν δ' ἠλέησε Κύπρις,  
 εἶπέν τε τοῖς Ἑρωσι  
 τὰ δεσμὰ οἱ πιλῦσαι.  
 ἐκ τῶδ' ἐπηκυλούθει,  
 κᾶς ὕλαν οὐκ ἔβαινε,  
 καὶ τῷ πυρὶ<sup>2</sup> προσελθὼν  
 ἔκαιε τοὺς ὀδόντας.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> μ' εἶ. mss μεν κατεκσίναζε Scaliger · mss  
 κατεσίναζε <sup>2</sup> τῷ πυρὶ Heinsius mss τῇ  
 χερὶ <sup>3</sup> ὀδόντας Wil mss ἔρωτας

## THE DEAD ADONIS

Cytherean," answered he, "by thyself and by thy husband, and by these my bonds and these thy huntsmen, never would I have smitten thy pretty husband but that I saw him there beautiful as a statue, and could not withstand the burning mad desire to give his naked thigh a kiss And now I pray thee make good havoc of me ; pray take and cut off these tusks, pray take and punish them—for why should I possess teeth so passionate ? And if they suffice thee not, then take my chaps also—for why durst they kiss ?" Then had Cyprius compassion and bade the Loves loose his bonds, and he went not to the woods, but from that day forth followed her, and more, went to the fire and burnt those his tusks away



## THE PATTERN-POEMS





## SIMLAS

### I.—THE AXE

*THIS poem was probably written to be inscribed upon a votive copy of the ancient axe with which tradition said Epeus made the Wooden Horse and which was preserved in a temple of Athena. The lines are to be read according to the numbering The metre is choriambic, and each pair of equal lines contains one foot less than the preceding The unusual arrangement of lines is probably mystic Simas of Rhodes flourished about B.C. 300.*

## ΤΕΧΝΟΠΑΙΓΝΙΑ

## ΣΙΜΙΟΤ

## I — ΠΕΛΕΚΥΣ

Ἀνδροθέα δῶρον ὁ Φωκεὺς κρατερᾶς μηδοσύνας ἦρα τίνων Ἀθάνια

3 τᾶμος, ἐπεὶ τὰν ἱερὰν κηρὶ πυρίπνυ πόλιν ἠθάλωσεν

5 οὐκ ἐνάρθμος γεγὰς ἐν προμάχοις Ἀχαιῶν

7 νῦν ἐς Ὀμήρειον ἔβα κέλευθον

9 τρὶς μάκαρ δὲν σὺν θυμῷ

11 ὅδ' ὄλβος

12 αἶψα πνέει.

10 ἴλαος ἀμφιδέρχθης.

8 σὰν χέριν, ἀγνὰ πολύβουλε Παλλάς.

6 ἀλλ' ἀπὸ κρατῶν ἰθαρῶν νῆμα κομῶζε δυσκλεῖς.<sup>1</sup>

4 Δαρδανιδᾶν, χρυσοβαφεῖς δ' ἐστυφέλιξ' ἐκ θεμέθλων ἄνακτας,

2 ὥπασ' Ἐπειὸς πέλεκεν, τῷ ποτε πύργων θεοτεύκτων κατέρειψεν αἶπος

<sup>1</sup> δυσκλεῖς = δυσκλεῖς E · mss δύσκλης, δυσκλεῖς ἰ · μαίόμενος W1 mss μοῦνος

<sup>13</sup> Σιμίας βαίνων κλυτὸς ἴσα θεοῖς ὥς εἶρε ῥόδου γεγάς ὁ πολύτροπα μαίόμενος<sup>2</sup> μέτρα μολπῆς

This line, the handle of the Axe, is missing from some of the mss, and is in all probability an interpolation from the *Egg* l. 20

## THE PATTERN-POEMS

## SIMIAS

## I.—THE AXE

EPERUS of Phocis has given unto the man-goddess Athena, in requital of her  
 doughty counsel, the axe with which he once overthrew the upstanding height of  
 God-bullded walls, in the day when with a fire-breath'd Doom he made ashes of  
 the holy city of the Dardanids and thrust gold-broidered lords from their high  
 seats, for all he was not numbered of the vanguard of the Achaeans, but drew off  
 an obscure runnel from a clear shunning fount Aye, for all that, he is gone up  
 now upon the road Homer made, thanks be unto thee, Pallas the pure, Pallas  
 the wise. Thrice fortunate he on whom thou hast looked with very favour.  
 This way happiness doth ever blow



## II.—THE WINGS

*THIS poem seems to have been inscribed on the wings of a statue—perhaps a votive statue—representing Love as a bearded child. The metre is the same as that of the Axe with the difference that the lines are to be read in the usual order. The poem also differs from the Axe in making no reference, except by its shape, to the wings of Love. Moreover it contains no hint of dedication.*

## II —ΠΤΕΡΥΓΕΣ

Λεῦσέ με τὸν Γᾶς τε βαθυστέρνου ἄνακτ' Ἀκμονίδαν τ' ἄλλυδις ἐδράσαντα,  
 μηδὲ τρέσης, εἰ τόσος ὢν δάσκηια βέβριθα λάχνα γένεα.  
 τᾶμος ἐγὼ γὰρ γενύομαι, ἀνὶκ' ἔκραν' Ἀνάγκα  
 πάντα δ' ἕκας εἶχε φράδεσσι λυγροῖς<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐρπετά, πάνθ' ὅσ' εἶρπε<sup>2</sup>  
 δι' αἰθρας

Χάους τε·

οὔτι γε Κύπριδος παῖς

ὠκυπέτας Ἀρείος<sup>3</sup> καλεῦμαι·

10 οὔτε γὰρ ἔκρανα βία, πραυνόω<sup>4</sup> δὲ πειθοῖ,

εἰκέ τέ μοι γαῖα θαλάσσας τε μυχοὶ χάλκεος οὐρανός τε·

τῶν δ' ἐγὼ ἐκυσφισάμαν ὠγύγιον σκάπτρον, ἔκρυν<sup>5</sup> δὲ θεοὶς θέμιστας.

<sup>1</sup> ἕκας εἶχε φράδεσσι λυγροῖς E, cf Hesych φραδέσι βούλαις · mss ἐκτάσσει καὶ φραδέσι (εἶκε φράδεσσιν) λυγροῖς <sup>2</sup> εἶρπε E; mss ἔρπει <sup>3</sup> Ἀρείος E, for α cf. Il. 2. 767 and Ἀραβία Theoc 17 86 · mss δ' ἄρειος, δ' ἄερος <sup>4</sup> mss πραύνω <sup>5</sup> mss ἔκρανον .

## II —THE WINGS

BEHOLD the ruler of the deep-bosomed Earth, the turner upside-down of the Son of Acmon, and have no fear that so little a person should have so plentiful a crop of beard to his chin. For I was born when Necessity bare rule, and all creatures, moved they in Air or in Chaos, were kept through her dismal government far apart. Swift-flying son of Cypris and war-lord Ares—I am not that at all, for by no force came I into rule, but by gentle-willed persuasion, and yet all alike, Earth, deep Sea, and brazen Heaven, bowed to my behest, and I took to myself their olden sceptre and made me a judge among God's

“Son of Acmon”: Heaven.      “Chaos”: *see i idr.*



- u -  
 - u - u | - u -  
 5, 6 u - u - | u - u - | u - -  
 u - u - | u u u - | > - u - | u - -  
 9, 10 u - u - | u - u - | u - | > - u - | u - -  
 u - u - | u - u - | u - | - u u | - u u | - u - -  
 u - u - | u - u - | - - | - - | - u u | - u u |  
 - u - -  
 15, 16 - - | - - | u u u - | u u u - | u u u - | u - u - |  
 u - | u - -  
 - u - u | - u - u | - u - > | - - | - - | - - |  
 u u - | u u - | u - u -  
 19, 20 - - | u u - | u u - | u u - | u u - | u u - |  
 u u u - | u u u - | - u u | - -

### III —THE EGG

*THIS piece would appear to have been actually inscribed upon an egg, and was probably composed merely as a tour-de-force. If so, it forms a link in the development of such pieces between the two preceding poems and Theocritus' Pipe. The lines, like those of the Axe, are to be read as they are numbered, and as there is no evidence here of dedication, the unusual order must have a different purpose; the poem must be of the nature of a puzzle or riddle. The piece is marked out from the Axe and the Wings on the one side, and from the Pipe on the other, by the variety of its metrical scheme. The lines gradually increase from a trochaic monometer catalectic to a complicated decameter of spondees, anapaests, paeons, and dactyls*

*The "Dorian nightingale" is the poet and the "new weft" the poem itself.*

### III.—ΩΙΟΝ

- 1 Κωτίλας  
 3 τῇ τόδ' ἄτριον νέον<sup>1</sup>  
 5 πρόφρων δὲ θυμῷ δέξο· δὴ γὰρ ἀγνῶς<sup>2</sup>  
 7 τὸ μὲν θεῶν ἐριβόας Ἑρμᾶς ἐκίξε<sup>3</sup> κἄρυξ  
 9 ἄνωγε δ' ἐκ μέτρου μονοβάμονος μέζω πάροιθ' ἀέξειν<sup>4</sup>  
 11 θοῶς δ' ὑπερθευ ὠκυλέχριον νεῦμα ποδῶν σποράδων  
     πίασκεν<sup>5</sup>  
 13 θοοῖσι<sup>6</sup> τ' αἰολαῖς νεβροῖς κῶλ' ἀλλάσσων ὀρσιπόδων  
     ἐλάφων τέκεσσιν·  
 15 τηλεκραιπνοῖς<sup>7</sup> ὑπὲρ ἄκρων ἰέμεναι ποσὶ λόφων κατ'  
     ἄρθμίας ἵχνος τιθήνας,  
 17 καί τις ὠμόθυμος ἀμφίπαλτον αἰψ' αὐδὰν θῆρ ἐν  
     κόλπῳ δεξάμενος θαλαμῶν πυκνωτάτῳ<sup>8</sup>  
 19 κᾶτ' ὦκα βοᾶς ἀκοὰν μεθέπων ὄγ' ἄφαρ λάσιον  
     νιφοβόλων ἀν' ὀρέων ἔσσυται ἄγκος·<sup>9</sup>  
 20 ταῖς δὴ δαίμων κλυτὸς ἴσα θοοῖσι πόνον δονέων πρὸς<sup>10</sup>  
     πολύπλοκα μεθίει μέτρα μολπᾶς.  
 18 ῥίμφα πετρόκοιτον<sup>11</sup> ἐκλιπὼν ὄρουσ' εὐνὰν ματρὸς  
     πλαγκτὸν μαιόμενος βαλιᾶς ἐλείν τέκος·  
 16 βλαχᾶ δ' οἴων πολυβότων ἀν' ὀρέον νομὸν ἔβαν  
     τανυσφύρων τ' ἀν' ἄντρα<sup>12</sup> Νυμφᾶν,  
 14 ταὶ δ' ἀμβρότῳ πόθῳ φίλας ματρὸς ῥώνοντ' αἰψα  
     μεθ' ἡμεροέντα μαζόν,  
 12 ἵχνει θενῶν τόνου<sup>13</sup> παναίολον, Πιερίδων μονόδουπον  
     αὐδὰν,  
 10 ἀριθμὸν εἰς ἄκραν δεκάδ' ἵχνίων, κόσμον νέμοντα<sup>14</sup>  
     ῥυθμῶν·  
 8 φῦλ' ἐς βροτῶν ὑπὸ φίλας ἐλὼν πτεροῖσι<sup>15</sup> ματρός, .  
 6 λίγειά νιν κάμ' ἀμφὶ ματρὸς ὠδίσ·<sup>16</sup>  
 4 Δωρίας ἀηδόνας·  
 2 ματέρος

For critical notes see p 499

### III.—THE EGG

Lo here a new weft of a twittering mother, a Dorian nightingale; receive it with a right good will, for pure was the mother whose shrilly throes did labour for it. The loud-voiced herald of the Gods took it up from beneath its dear mother's wings, and cast it among the tribes of men and bade it increase its number onward more and more—that number keeping the while due order of rhythms—from a one-footed measure even unto a full ten measures · and quickly he made fat from above the swiftly-slanting slope of its vagrant feet, striking, as he went on, a motley strain indeed but a right concordant cry of the Pærians, and making exchange of limbs with the nimble fawns the swift children of the foot-stirring stag.—Now these fawns through immortal desire of their dear dam do rush apace after the beloved teat, all passing with far-hasting feet over the hilltops in the track of that friendly nurse, and with a bleat they go by the mountain pastures of the thousand feeding sheep and the caves of the slender-ankled Nymphs, till all at once some cruel-hearted beast, receiving their echoing cry in the dense fold of his den, leaps speedily forth of the bed of his rocky lair with intent to catch one of the wandering progeny of that dappled mother, and then swiftly following the sound of their cry straightway darteth through the shaggy dell of the snow-clad hills —Of feet as swift as theirs urged that renowned God the labour, as he sped the manifold measures of the song



NOTES TO P. 496

<sup>1</sup> thus Bergk-Wil mss (with incorporated glosses) τῇ τόδ' ὦδν νέον ἀγνᾶς ἀηδόνας πανδιωνίδας δαρίας νασιάτας ἔτριον βόδου (or τί τόδ' ὦδν νέον ἀηδόνας Δωρίας ἀγρίου) <sup>2</sup> δὴ γὰρ ἀγνᾶς Salmasius · mss δεῖ γὰρ ἀγνᾶ, δὴ ἀγνᾶ <sup>3</sup> ἔκλιξε · mss also ἤκλιξε <sup>4</sup> mss also ὄνφ δ' μέζω E mss μέγαν ἀέξειν · mss also ὦνξε <sup>5</sup> ὠκυλέχριον E mss ὠκὺ λέχ. φέρων πῖασκεν, cf Pind P. 4 150 mss also πῖφασκεν <sup>6</sup> θοοῖσι E mss θοαῖσι <sup>7</sup> τηλεκρ E. mss παλαικραιπνοῖς <sup>8</sup> θαλαμῶν Haeberlin · mss -ων πυκωτάτφ mss πονκότατον, πουλόττητα <sup>9</sup> κᾶτ' Wil mss καὶ τὰδ' λάσιον Salm · mss -ων ἔσσονται ἄγκος Salm : mss ἔσσυντ' ἀνάγκαις <sup>10</sup> κλυτὸς Bgk mss -αῖς ἴσα θοοῖσι πόνον δονέων ποσὶ Jacobs-E mss ἴσα θεοῖς ποσὶ δονέων or θο π πονέων <sup>11</sup> πετρόκ Salm · mss πετρόκ. or περίκ <sup>12</sup> βλαχῆ E mss βλαχαί, λαχαί ὀρέον = ὀρεῖον E. mss ὀρέων τ' ἀν' ἔντρα E mss τ' ἔντρα or ἔντρα <sup>13</sup> θενῶν τόνον E mss θένον τὸν, θενῶ τὰν <sup>14</sup> mss also ἄκρον thus Bgk mss κόσμιος νέμοντο ρυθμῶ, κόσμον νέμοντα ρυθμὸν <sup>15</sup> πτεροῖσι Scaliger · mss πέτροις, πέτροισι <sup>16</sup> κάμ' ἀμφὶ E mss καμφι ὦδῖς mss also ὦδῖς ἀγνᾶς

## THEOCRITUS

### THE SHEPHERD'S PIPE

*THE lines of this puzzle-poem are arranged in pairs, each pair being a syllable shorter than the preceding, and the dactylic metre descending from a hexameter to a catalectic dimeter. The solution of it is a shepherd's pipe dedicated to Pan by Theocritus. The piece is so full of puns as to preclude accurate translation. The epithet Merops, as applied to Echo, is explained as sentence-curtailing, because she gives only the last syllables (?), but there is also a play on Merops "Thessalian." The strongest reason<sup>1</sup> for doubting the self-contained ascription of this remarkable tour-de-force to Theocritus is that the shepherd's pipe of Theocritus' time would seem to have been rectangular, the tubes being of equal apparent length, and the difference of tone secured by wax fillings. But to the riddle-maker and his*

<sup>1</sup> Advanced by Mr A S F Gow in an unpublished paper which he has kindly allowed me to read

## THE PATTERN-POEMS

*public a poem was primarily something heard, not something seen, and the variation in the heard length of the lines would correspond naturally enough to the variation in note of the tubes of the pipe. Moreover, every musical person must have known that, effectively, the tubes were unequal. The doubling of the lines is to be explained as a mere evolutionary survival. The application of puzzles or riddles to this form of composition was new, but in giving himself the patronymic Simichidas the author is probably acknowledging his debt to his predecessor, Simachus being a pet-name form of Simias, as Amyntichus for Amyntas in VII. If so, the Pipe is anterior to the Harvest Home, and we have here the origin of the poet's nickname.*



# THEOCRITUS.—THE SHEPHERD'S PIPE

Odysseus  
 THE bedfere of nobody and mother of the war-  
machus herdsman of (goats) the goat  
 abiding brought forth a nimble director of  
 that suckled one (Zeus) for whom a stone was substituted Cerastas,  
 the nurse of the vice-stone, not the  
 long-horned = Comatas, long-huired bees, cf 7 80 and Verg G 4 530  
 horned one who was once fed by the son of a bull,  
Pitys (Pine) = P + itys, itys = shield-rim, ine (old  
 but him whose heart was fired of old by the P-less  
spelling) = eyes, i e bosses lit whole, pan = all  
 ine of bucklers, goat- dish by name and double  
legged  
 by nature, him that loved the wind-swift voice-born  
Echo lit voice-dividing (of Man) Syrinx also = fistula  
 maiden of mortal speech, him that fashioned a sore  
 that shrilled with the violet-crowned Muse into a  
for Syrinx  
 monument of the fiery furnace of his love, him that  
the Persian at Marathon  
 extinguished the manhood which was of equal sound  
Persus Europa (Europe) was daughter  
 with a grandsire-slayer and drove it out of a maid of  
of a Phoenician Theo-critus = judge between  
 Tyre, him, in short, to whom is set up by this Paris  
Gods<sup>1</sup> nickname of Theocritus woe = possession, ref. to the  
 that is son of Simichus this delectable piece of un-  
sore above i e moleskin wallet, lit wearers of the blind,  
 peaceful goods dear to the wearers of the blindman's  
blind = wallet lit man treading, Prometheus made  
 skin, with which heartily well pleased, thou clay-  
Man of clay beloved Omphale (cf Ovid, Fast 2 305) son of  
 treading gadfly of the Lydian quean, at once thief-  
Hermes, and, in a sense, son of Odysseus lit box-legged,  
 begotten and none-begotten, whose pegs be legs,  
bov = hoof  
 whose legs be pegs, play sweetly I pray thee unto  
Echo cannot speak of herself  
 a maiden who is mute indeed and yet is another  
= of beautiful voice  
 Calliopè that is heard but not seen

<sup>1</sup> Strictly the compound should mean 'judged by God'



## DOSIADAS

### THE FIRST ALTAR

*THIS puzzle is written in the Iambic metrie and composed of two pairs of complete lines, five pairs of half-lines, and two pairs of three-quarter lines, arranged in the form of an altar. Of the writer nothing is known, he was obviously acquainted with the Pipe and also with Lycophron's Alexandra. The poem is mentioned by Lucian (Leuph. 25), but metrical considerations point to its being of considerably later date than the Pipe. Moreover, the idea of making an altar of verses presupposes a change in the conception of what a poem is. It was now a thing of ink and paper, and Dosiadas seems to have interpreted the Pipe in the light of the pipes of his own time, as representing the outward appearance of an actual pipe.*

# ΔΩΣΙΑΔΑ ΔΩΡΙΕΩΣ

## ΒΩΜΟΣ

Εἰμάρσενός με στήτας  
 πόσις, μέρονψ δίσαβος,  
 τεύξ', οὐ σποδεύνας ἱνις Ἑμπούσας μόρος  
 Τεύκροιο βούτα καὶ κυνὸς τεκνώματος,  
 χρυσᾶς δ' <sup>1</sup> αἶτας, ἄμος ἐψάνδρα  
 τὸν γυνιόχαλκον οὔρον ἔρραισεν,  
 ὃν ἀπάτωρ δίσεννος  
 μόγησε ματρώριπτος·  
 ἐμὸν δὲ τεύγμ' ἀθρήσας  
 Θεοκρίτοιο κτάντας  
 τριεσπέροιο καύστας  
 θώυξεν αἶν' ἰύξας <sup>2</sup>  
 χάλεψε γάρ νιν ἰῶ  
 σύργαστρος ἐκδυγήρας <sup>3</sup>  
 τὸν δ' αἰλινεῦντ' <sup>4</sup> ἐν ἀμφικλύστῳ  
 Πανός τε ματρὸς εὐνέτας φῶρ  
 δίξφος ἱνίς τ' ἀνδροβρώτος Ἰλорαιστᾶν <sup>5</sup>  
 ἦρ' ἀρδίῳν ἐς Τευκρίδ' ἄγαγον τρίπορθον.

<sup>1</sup> χρυσᾶς E mss χρυσᾶς, -οῖς, -οῦς δ' : added by  
 Valekenæer <sup>2</sup> αἶν' ἰύξας Salm mss ἀνιύξας <sup>3</sup> ἐκδυγήρας  
 Salm . mss ἐκδὺς γήρας <sup>4</sup> αἰλινεῦντ' Hecker . mss αἰ  
 λινεῦντ' or ἐλλινεῦντ' <sup>5</sup> mss ἰλорαίσταν, ἰλорαίστας, ἰλιο-  
 ραίστας

# DOSIADAS

## THE FIRST ALTAR

I AM the work of the husband of a mannish-  
 to fly into Media rejuvenated in Medea's caldron this also = Thessalian  
 mantled quean, of a twice-young mortal, not  
 i.e. Thetis, who could Thetis put Achilles in active  
 change her form like E the fire to immortalise him and passive  
 Empusa's cinder-bedded scion, who was the killing  
 he was killed by Paris and killer of Hector son of Hecuba, who  
 of a Teucrian neatherd and of the childing of a  
 i.e. Jason, who built this altar to  
 became a dog Chryse (= Golden) on the way to Colchis  
 bitch, but the leman of a golden woman, and he  
 Medea  
 made me when the husband-boiler smote down  
 Talos the brazen man  
 protected Crete also = guardian and other things Hephaestus  
 the brazen-legged breeze wrought of the twice-  
 wedded Aphrodite and Aglaja, and was a virgin-  
 birth of Hera who cast him from Olympus  
 wed mother-hutled virgin-born; and when the  
 Philoctetes Paris, see the *Pipe* lighter of the pyre Heracles  
 slaughterman of Theocritus and burner of the three-  
 was begotten on three nights the Altar  
 nighted gazed upon this wrought piece, a full  
 dolorous shriek he shright, for a belly-creeping  
 serpent p.n.von = arrow  
 shedder of age did him despite with enshafed venom  
 isle of Lemnos  
 but when he was alackadaying in the wave-ywashen,  
 Odysseus carried off the  
 Penelopè Palladium and came alive from Hades  
 Pan's mother's thievish twy-lived bedfellow came  
 Diomed, son of Tydeus who ate Melanippus' head  
 with the scion of a cannibal, and carried him into  
 by Heracles, the Amazons, the Greeks also = land of Troy  
 the thrice-sacked daughter of Teucer for the  
 the arrows of Heracles brought by Philoctetes  
 caused (Troy's fall and) the destruction of the  
 tomb (and corpse) of Ilus  
 sake of Ilus-shiveing arrow-heads



## VESTINUS

### THE SECOND ALTAR

THE *Besantinus* of the manuscripts is very probably a corruption of *Bestinus*, that is *L. Julius Vestinus*, who is described in an inscription as “High-priest of Alexandria and all Egypt, Curator of the Museum, Keeper of the Libraries both Greek and Roman at Rome, Supervisor of the Education of Hadrian, and Secretary to the same Emperor” The dedication to Hadrian is contained in the acrostic, which runs, “O Olympian, mayst thou sacrifice in<sup>1</sup> many years” The Altar is composed of three Anacreontean lines, three trochaic tetrameters, three phalaeacians, eleven iambic dimeters, three anapaestic dimeters, and three chorambic tetrameters The poem is not a puzzle, except in so far as the acrostic furnishes this element, for, unlike its predecessors, it refers to itself in definite terms The author has confined his imitation of Doszadas to the shape of the poem and the use of out-of-the-way words and expressions.

<sup>1</sup> Or perhaps “for,” i. e. “in honour of”

# ΒΗΣΤΙΝΟΥ<sup>1</sup>

## ΒΩΜΟΣ

Ο λὸς οὗ με λιβρὸς ἱρῶν  
 Λ ιβίδεσσιν οἶα κάλχης<sup>2</sup>  
 Υ ποφοινίησι τέγγει,  
 Μ αὐλίες δ' ὑπερθε πέτρῃ Ναξίῃ<sup>3</sup> θοοόμεναι  
 Π αμάτων φείδοντο Πανός, οὐ στροβίλῳ<sup>4</sup> λυγνύι  
 Ι ξὸς εὐώδης μελαίνει τρεχέων με Νυσίων·  
 Ε ς γὰρ βωμὸν ὄρη με μήτε γλούρου<sup>5</sup>  
 Π λίνθοις μήτ' Ἀλύβης παγέντα<sup>6</sup> βώλοισι,  
 Ο ὑδ' ὃν Κυνοβογενῆς ἔτευξε φύτλη  
 Λ αβόντε μηκάδων κέρα,  
 Λ ισσαῖσιν ἀμφὶ δειράσιν  
 Ο σσαι νέμονται Κυνοθίαις,  
 Ι σόρροπος πέλοιτό μοι·  
 Σ ὕν οὐρανοῦ γὰρ ἐκγόνοις  
 Ε ἰνὰς μ' ἔτευξε γηγενής,  
 Τ άων ἀείζων τέχνην  
 Ε νευσε πάλμυς ἀφθίτων.  
 Σ ὕ δ', ὦ πιῶν κρήνηθεν ἦν  
 Ι νις κόλαψε Γοργόνος,  
 Θ ύοις τ' ἐπισπένδοις τ' ἔμοι  
 Υ μηττιάδων πολὺ λαροτέρην  
 Σ πονδὴν ἄδην· ἔθι δὲ θαρσέων  
 Ε ς ἐμὴν τεύξιιν, καθαρὸς γὰρ ἐγὼ  
 Ι ὃν ἰέντων τεράων, οἶα κέκευθ' ἐκεῖνος,  
 Α μφὶ Νέαις Θρηικίαις ὃν σχεδόθεν Μυρίνης  
 Σ οί, Τριπάτωρ, πορφυρέου φῶρ ἀνέθηκε κριοῦ.

<sup>1</sup> Βηστίνου Haeb · mss Βησαντίνου <sup>2</sup> κάλχης Brunck-E  
 mss κάχλην <sup>3</sup> mss πέτρης ναξίας <sup>4</sup> στροβίλῳ Salm mss  
 -ων <sup>5</sup> mss ὄρης μ γλούρου Bgk: mss μ ταγχοῦρου,  
 μηταχούρου <sup>6</sup> λαβόντε Wil mss -τα



## VESTINUS

### THE SECOND ALTAR

THE murky flux of sacrifice bedews me not with ruddy trickles like the flux of a purple-fish, the whittles whetted upon Naxian stone spare over my head the possessions of Pan, and the fragrant ooze of Nysian boughs blackens me not with his twirling reek, for in me behold an altar knyt neither of bricks aureate nor of nuggets Alybaean, nor yet that altar which the generation of two that was born upon Cynthus did build with the horns of such as bleat and browse over the smooth Cynthian ridges, be not that made my equal in the weighing: for I was builded with aid of certain offspring of Heaven by the Nine that were born of Earth, and the liege-lord of the deathless decreed their work should be eterne. And now, good drinker of the spring that was stricken of the scion of the Gorgon, I pray that thou mayst do sacrifice upon me and pour plentiful libation of far goodlier gust than the daughters of Hymettus; up and come boldly unto this wrought piece, for 'tis pure from venom-venting prodigies such as were hid in that other, which the thief who stole a purple ram set up unto the daughter of three sires in Thracian Neae over against Myrinè.

“possessions of Pan”. sheep and oxen. “fragrant ooze of Nysian boughs”. frankincense “nuggets Alybaean” explained by *Iliad*, 2. 857. “offspring of Heaven”. the Graces “the Nine”. the Muses “daughter of three sires”. an etymological variation of Tritogeneia. The last few lines refer to the *Altar* of Dosiadas, Myrinè being another name for Lesbos



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